



'Patriot missiles' myth' quashed

NEW YORK (AFP) — U.S. Patriot missiles deployed to defend Israel from Iraqi Scud attacks during the Gulf war at best intercepted one missile, according to Israeli officials quoted in a report Sunday. Moshe Arens, Israeli defense minister in the Gulf war, General Dan Shomron, who was Israel's army chief of staff during the war, and Haim Asa, a member of the Israeli technical team that worked with the Patriots, were quoted by the New York Times as saying that one or possibly none of the Scuds was intercepted by the Patriots. The statements contradict claims by the U.S. army, which said the Patriots intercepted about 40 per cent of the Scud missiles fired at Israel during the war in 1991. Mr. Arens, Gen. Shomron and Mr. Asa appeared in a documentary scheduled to be broadcast on Israeli television. The Times said it had obtained a copy of interviews with the three men. In the documentary, Gen. Shomron described claims of the Patriots' success as "a myth: Mr. Asa called them 'a joke.' Mr. Arens, when asked how many Scuds were intercepted by patriots, said that 'the number is minuscule and is in fact meaningless."

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King, Mubarak exchange views

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein Sunday telephoned Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and exchanged views with him on regional and international issues and the latest developments in the peace process, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. It did not give details.

Majali congratulates Senate speaker

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday congratulated Ahmad Al Lawzi on his reappointment as speaker of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate). Following a visit to Mr. Lawzi's office, Dr. Majali voiced hope that both the executive and legislative powers will act in harmony and that neither one of them will intervene in the duties and terms of reference of the other. He stressed the government's respect for the legislative power and noted that the government presents its programme to the legislative power for a vote of confidence.

Adwan returns home

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Afshar Al Adwan Sunday returned home from London after heading the Jordanian delegation to an international tourism and travel fair held there. Taking part in the fair were representatives of 5,700 international tourist companies and corporations.

Iranian minister ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Iranian Minister of Heavy Industries Mahdi Mufidi Sunday left Amman after taking part in the inauguration of an Iranian exhibition. In a departure statement, Mr. Mufidi voiced his country's readiness to support Jordanian industry. He said that the Jordanian industry could develop the quality of its products to meet the consumers' needs, at the local and Arab levels. During his stay here, Mr. Mufidi signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Industry and Trade to bolster economic and trade relations.

Israeli court jails 3 Hamas men for life

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — An Israeli court sentenced three members of the military wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas to life in jail Sunday for the killing of an Israeli soldier. Israel Radio said. Suleiman Tayssir, Faed Shaloudi and Marwan Abu Remeleh had confessed to killing Yaron Chen three months ago, it said. The mother of one of the three who were sentenced was ordered detained when she began screaming in court.

Israel links pullout to Hizbollah truce

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel will not withdraw from its "security zone" in southern Lebanon so long as Hizbollah and other militant groups are not dismantled or do not lay down their arms, a senior official said Sunday. "We won't even contemplate pulling out of the 'security zone' if all the forces, like Hizbollah and the rejectionist organisations, are not dismantled," said Uri Lubrani, Israel's coordinator in South Lebanon.

Saleh ready to meet vice-president

SANAA (AP) — President Ali Abdullah Saleh Sunday was reportedly ready to meet Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beedhi to discuss differences threatening their country's three-year-old union. The United Opposition Front, an alliance of small opposition parties, reported Mr. Saleh's gesture in a statement after a late night meeting with him. They said Mr. Saleh was willing to meet Mr. Beedhi at a halfway point between the capital Sanaa and Aden. The statement said Mr. Saleh had agreed to accept a "comprehensive national dialogue"

King returns after talks with Assad on peace process

Two leaders stress need for unified stand and vision towards comprehensive peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency despatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday paid a working visit to Syria where he held talks with President Hafez Al Assad on the Middle East peace process, the progress in Jordanian-Israeli negotiations and the logjam in the Syrian-Israeli track of peace talks as well as the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accord signed on Sept. 13.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King and President Assad exchanged views on various Arab and international issues, including the latest developments in the peace process.

"The two leaders stressed the need for bilateral coordination and to crystallise a unified position and vision towards the peace process," Petra said.

The King and President Assad, who also held a round of tete-a-tete talks, "emphasised the importance of formulating a unified pan-Arab stand towards the peace process and

to continue the search for a comprehensive and durable peace which the future generations would accept and safeguard," the agency said.

"Peace should be based on the restoration of the entire rights of the Arabs, including the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination on their national soil," it added.

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, who accompanied the King to Damascus, told reporters that the Jordanian-Syrian summit was "characterised by frankness of all issues."

The visit was aimed at discussing the developments in the region and exchange of views on the future of the peace process, he said.

In addition to Dr. Majali, the talks were attended by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and the King's political advisor Marwan Al Qassem.

On the Syrian side the meeting was attended by Syrian vice-presidents Abdul Halim

Khaddam and Zuhair Masharqa. Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zoubi and Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa.

The Hussein-Assad summit came ahead of a planned regional tour next month by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher who is trying to keep up the momentum in the peace process.

It also came just 24 hours before U.S. envoy Dennis Ross arrives in the region to prepare for Mr. Christopher's trip.

Jordan signed a peace agenda with Israel on Sept. 14, the day after the accord on limited autonomy for the Palestinians was signed in Washington.

Syria sharply criticised the autonomy accord as weakening the Arab negotiating position and its peace negotiations with Israel remain at impasse.

Syrian-Israeli talks are deadlocked over Syria's demand for a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights and Israel's insistence that Syria must first pledge its commitment to full peace.



His Majesty King Hussein with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus Sunday (Petra)

Barring last-minute surprises, Masri assured of speakership

By Ayman Al Safadi Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The race for the speakership of the Lower House of Parliament seems to have been concluded one day before the 12th Parliament holds its first session Tuesday.

Former Prime Minister Taher Al Masri appears to have succeeded in rallying the support of many independent and leftist deputies behind his candidacy and many observers say he is set to win the speakership of the House.

The 18-member Islamic Action Front (IAF) bloc is still, however, determined to vie for the position that it held three years during the term of the 11th Parliament.

The front is fielding IAF Deputy Secretary-General Abdullah Akaleh for the leadership of the House. IAF deputy-elect Hammam Said said Sunday Dr. Akaleh stood a good chance of winning the race.

Dr. Said cited three factors that he said would work to the advantage of Dr. Akaleh when the House elects the speaker Tuesday after His Majesty King Hussein opens the 12th Parliament with a speech from the Throne.

First, he said, the IAF bloc will be the only "coherent" parliamentary bloc whose members are joined together by a strategic commitment

and not by "tactical timely" objectives.

Second, Dr. Said said without elaboration, a number of deputies from outside the bloc had committed themselves to supporting Dr. Akaleh.

The third reason he said would work to the advantage of Dr. Akaleh in the race was "the strong credentials" of the deputy from Tafleeh.

Dr. Akaleh, a deputy for the third consecutive terms, served as president of the Finance Committee of the Lower House during the three terms of the 11th Parliament.

IAF sources declined comment when asked if they would support the candidacy of Mr. Masri if neither of the contenders for the speakership manage to win enough votes in the first round. But observers expect the front to support Mr. Masri if it becomes certain that Dr. Akaleh was losing his bid.

Parliamentary regulations stipulate that a candidate for the speakership of the House has to win an absolute majority in the first round of balloting. A simple majority will suffice in a second round.

Fawzi Tusimeh, speaker of the 18 member National Action Front (NAF), said that two of the bloc's members "have shown interest" in running for the speakership but most observers say the bloc would not be able to field a strong contender.

Observers say an NAF candidate will not be supported by an absolute majority in the first round of balloting and will be even weaker if the House holds a second round.

The Islamic Action Front will put its weight behind Mr. Masri if he is challenged by an NAF candidate in a second round of balloting because the NAF is expected to give a government headed by Abdul Salam Al Majali a vote of confidence, observers say. The NAF, which was formed last week, is headed by Karak Deputy-elect Abdul Hadi Al Majali.

Most observers expected the Progressive Democratic Coalition (PDC), which was scheduled to be announced Sunday with a membership of 20-25 deputies-elect, to support Mr. Masri. The coalition, formed by leftists, nationalists and centrist deputies, has members who have publicly said they would support Mr. Masri.

The eight-member Jordan National Front (JNF), which is headed by Irbid Deputy-elect Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, is expected to support Mr. Masri if none of its members decides to seek the speakership.

Observers say Mr. Masri will be able to win the speakership of the House at a first round of balloting if the PDC and the JNA decide to support him.

Palestinian development bank under formation

AMMAN (Agencies) — A Palestinian development bank will be set up after Palestinians take final control in the Gaza Strip and Jericho next April, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) economic official said Sunday.

"The Palestine development bank has now progressed beyond the initial stages of setting up and is expected to be amongst the first financial institutions after the Palestinians assume authority," Jawad Naji, head of the PLO's economic affairs and planning department, told Reuters.

He said the bank's capital, provisionally about \$100 million, will primarily come from private sector Palestinians and wealthy entrepreneurs backing the project.

"Its shares will be offered for subscription to the private sector and the Palestinian authority would have a stake in its capital," he said.

Dr. Naji said the bank would be "like any other development bank, giving financial credit to investors in industry, trade, tourism and housing."

The bank is high on the list of institutions the PLO wants to help build a viable economic entity in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Dr. Naji said commitments from donors to help the bank were not a priority now as its founders were focusing on attracting private Palestinian capital.

Push for democracy

Four senior Palestinian officials have set up a committee to ensure that the PLO respects their calls for the democratisation of Palestinian institutions, one of the officials said here Sunday.

Nabil Amer, an adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said the temporary committee would be charged with contacting PLO leaders to "urge them to adopt ideas and requests" set out in a petition calling for more democracy.

The petition, currently being circulated among leading Palestinian officials, calls for a constitution guaranteeing a democratic Palestinian authority and respect for human rights in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The other members of the committee are: Ibrahim Abu Ayyash and Tayseer Aruri — both members of the Palestine Central Council — and a member of the Palestine National Council, Tawfik Badr.

Rabin presses his drive for secret negotiations with Syria

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin Sunday cooled expectations for an imminent breakthrough in peace talks with any Arab neighbours and called on Syria to hold secluded, substantive negotiations for peace.

Speaking upon his return from a 10-day trip to the United States and Canada, Mr. Rabin also stressed he asked Washington to maintain the \$3 billion in annual civilian and military aid.

He said Israel would receive 50 surplus U.S. F-16A fighter jets "practically for free" over the next two years.

On the peace front, Mr. Rabin said there were no concrete developments paralleling the autonomy accord signed Sept. 13 with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"At this stage, there is nothing that is close to a completion in a public fashion with any other country... including Jordan," Mr. Rabin told a news conference.

"I expect Syria to carry out substantive negotiations including (in) back channels," Mr. Rabin added, referring to the talks out of public sight.

Israel and the PLO have made progress after they moved their talks to a secret location in Cairo.

Mr. Rabin dismissed recent

polls showing a decline in the support for the peace arrangement with the PLO, saying negotiations were going ahead "regardless of the ups and downs in the polls."

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is due to visit the region in early December and Mr. Rabin's spokesman Gad Ben-Ari said one of the trip's intentions was to achieve "ways to resume the dialogue between Israel and Syria."

A main obstacle in the negotiations is a Syrian demand for complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Israel army radio quoted sources saying that following Mr. Christopher's visit, Israel and Syria would make a joint declaration of a mutual recognition and the talks would resume in January.

But Mr. Ben-Ari called the report "speculation, with no base in reality."

Mr. Rabin said Israel wants proper peace treaties with Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, not interim accords.

"The aim of the negotiations with... Syria, Jordan and Lebanon is not to reach interim agreements but detailed and clear peace treaties," Mr. Rabin told the airport press conference.

"We don't want to have a declaration of principles with them," he said, referring to the

Sept. 13 autonomy deal with the PLO.

"Negotiations should take place in the following way: Discrete contact, moves towards a conclusion and a public announcement that it is being drawn up at the time when every thing is ready," Mr. Rabin said.

The prime minister said he expected Mr. Christopher to tour the Middle East in the first half of December in a bid to hold a fresh round of bilateral negotiations.

Mr. Rabin went on: "I want the Syrians to negotiate seriously, including through secret channels."

"I think better results can be achieved through secret negotiations."

Syria has, however, said it has spurned Israeli moves to launch secret talks.

Israel's ambassador in Washington said Syria would benefit if it refrains from torpedoing a pending peace treaty with Jordan.

Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich told army radio that Mr. Rabin and President Bill Clinton agreed during a meeting in Washington earlier this month that Israel's first priority in Middle East peace talks was implementing its accord with the PLO, followed by stepping up negotiations with Jordan.

Israel leaving large Gaza base; settlers threaten Arab police

GAZA CITY, occupied Gaza Strip (Agencies) — The Israeli army has pulled some soldiers and equipment out of the largest military base in Gaza City as troops shot two Palestinian boys on Sunday.

Troops opened fire on stone-throwers leaving a 12-year-old seriously wounded with a bullet in the abdomen in the city, doctors said. Another 12-year-old was hit in the leg and slightly wounded at the nearby Shati refugee camp.

A grenade lobbed at an army patrol on the main street of Gaza City exploded without causing injury, Palestinian sources said.

People living near Gaza City's "seafront" army camp saw troops and equipment leaving throughout the night.

Part of the site, which also includes houses, a border guard post and a jail holding 240 Palestinians, was deserted open space on Sunday.

Fewer than a dozen army tents remained in the camp compared with about 50 last week.

"At about half-past ten I heard a lot of noise," said Um Sami, whose apartment overlooks the base near the Mediterranean Sea.

"I opened my window and I saw troop transporters, half-trucks and lorries leaving the base," she told AFP.

Trucks also left a smaller army post in Gaza City's Sheikh Radwan district last week.

An army spokesman refused to comment, beyond saying: "We have no reaction on this issue. It is political."

Military sources added: "The army is deployed as usual in the Gaza Strip and we do not comment on all sorts of reports about a so-called new deployment in our barracks."

Under the Sept. 13 Palestinian autonomy agreement the Army has four months to withdraw from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, starting from Dec. 13.

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) are negotiating in Egypt the modalities of the withdrawal.

Gaza City also houses the headquarters of the military administration of the strip and a separate army headquarters as well as Gaza central jail.

Police Minister Moshe Shalom announced Saturday that Israel was prepared to agree to a Palestinian force of about 15,000 officers who would ensure the safety of Arabs and Jews in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

They are expected to start deploying in the occupied territories from Dec. 13, the same date Israeli forces are to begin withdrawing.

"There could be another Lebanon a few kilometres from Tel Aviv if Palestinians are walking about with pistols and kalashnikovs," Mr. Nahman told a press conference.

Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid voiced hope Sunday that some Jewish settlements will remain in the occupied territories once their final status is decided in the peace process.

(Continued on page 5)

"Why do you fly to America through Amsterdam?"

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Mubarak woos Rabbani but little impact seen on Arabs in Afghanistan

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has persuaded the Afghan government to sign a joint security treaty in a bid to thwart Muslim militants in Afghanistan as a base for guerrilla operations in Egypt and the Arab world.

Egyptian security and Muslim fundamentalist sources both think the official agreement will stay largely on paper with little or no practical effect on militants who are fighting to overthrow Arab governments.

They say Afghanistan's powerful factional leaders, headed by Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, would never agree to hand over the "Afghan Arabs" who fought alongside them in their 10-year struggle against occupation by the former Soviet Union.

And while the militants may continue to use the remote Central Asian country as one in a series of safe bases, both sides say militant leaders are increasingly heading towards Europe and wherever else they can operate closer to the action.

Al Ahram newspaper on

Sunday said Afghan President Barhamuddin Rabbani signed an agreement with his Egyptian counterpart Hosni Mubarak during a state visit last week.

"The two sides agreed to cooperate in the fields special to security and regional peace and coordinate joint efforts in these fields," said the newspaper, without giving details. Mr. Rabbani, an elderly cleric who commands respect but little power in Afghanistan, was much feted in Egypt's official media and repeatedly condemned terrorism, saying Afghanistan would have nothing to do with any operation against Egypt's security.

Al Ahram said Egypt would reopen its embassy in Kabul as soon as possible.

But no sooner had Mr. Rabbani returned home than he and Mr. Hekmatyar officially received Sudanese Islamic leader Hassan Al Tourabi, who was visiting to try and mediate between warring Afghan factions.

Dr. Tourabi, widely considered the most powerful man in Sudanese politics, has been

singled out by Cairo as the architect of an international militant movement aiming to install fundamentalist governments across the Muslim World, including Egypt.

Egyptian security sources say militants continue to enjoy factional protection in Afghanistan but, like Pakistan's Peshawar province, the main advantage as a base to plan operations has gone now that the intelligence services of governments they threaten are focusing on them there.

Hundreds of Arabs left Pakistan earlier this year after the government in Islamabad came under pressure from the United States and Egypt to stop militant activities. Muslim fundamentalist sources say many of them went to Afghanistan.

Fundamentalist sources say one leader of the Jihad (Holy Struggle) group fighting against the government recently obtained residence in Denmark. Diplomatic and security sources say another Egyptian militant was recently spotted in London.

Israel bars Arab-American; ADC seeks formal protest

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Israeli occupation authorities Sunday barred entry to a well-known Arab-American activist, triggering a demand from the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) that the U.S. State Department lodge a formal protest with the Israeli government.

Abdeen Jabara, vice-president of the ADC, said he was turned back from the King Hussein Bridge by the Israeli border authorities when he sought to enter the West Bank Sunday.

Apparently, Mr. Jabara, a former president of the ADC who has a long record of campaigning for the political rights of the Palestinians, is among those classified as "undesirables" by Israel.

However, no reasons were given by the border authorities for turning him away.

It was the second time Mr. Jabara was denied entry by the Israeli authorities. In 1988, he was turned away from Tel Aviv airport when he flew in from Geneva after addressing the U.N. General Assembly session in Geneva to visit the ADC chapter opened in Jerusalem the year before.

Recalling that experience, Mr. Jabara said he was put under armed guard and held overnight at the airport before being put aboard the first U.S.-bound flight without being given the opportunity to contact American consular officials in Israel.

Subsequently, the Israeli government cited Mr. Jabara's activities in support of Palestinian and Arab causes in the U.S. for denying him entry.

Mr. Jabara, of Michigan, is a lawyer well known for the high-profile actions that the



Abdeen Jabara

ADC undertook during his presidency against discrimination against Arabs in the U.S. and the running conflict he had with pro-Israeli lobbying groups in Washington.

"My activities that Israel gave as the reasons for denying me entry in 1988 were totally lawful actions I undertook in my capacity as an American citizen," Mr. Jabara said Sunday.

According to the ADC regional office in Amman, "the reasons which had been given in 1988 for denying Jabara entry were all information which was provided by unnamed informants in the United States. Recent revelations concerning the spying activities of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of the B'nai B'rith would seem to point to the fact that the information supplied relationship which the ADL had with Israel and South Africa did not relate solely to instances in which a person or group was in danger of bodily harm."

Speaking to the Jordan Times shortly after his return from the King Hussein Bridge, Mr. Jabara said: "The issue

here is whether it is the practice and policy of the Israeli government to exclude and penalise anyone who has campaigned in support of the human rights of the Palestinian people."

The ADC activist said ADC President Albert Mokhiber, was informed of Sunday's incident during a previously scheduled meeting he was having with Douglas Keene, the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

Mr. Mokhiber, who is on a visit to Jordan during which he and Mr. Jabara attended several meetings and panel discussions (See page 10), immediately lodged a formal demand that the U.S. State Department protest the incident with the Israeli government, Mr. Jabara said.

"We have been assured that this would be done immediately," he added.

Mr. Jabara, who was one of the invited guests of the White House when Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed their groundbreaking autonomy accord in Sept. 13, said he was hoping that "the accord would open a new era where Israel would put an end to its high-handed actions and be more conducive to dialogue and harmony."

In a statement released through the ADC regional office in Amman, Dr. Mokhiber said: "The Israeli denial of Mr. Jabara's entry is in clear violation of the U.S.-Israeli Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation, which forbids such ill-treatment of American visitors."

"More importantly, it violates the spirit of the (Middle East) peace talks and sends a very ominous message about the prospects for true reconciliation and respect for advocates of Palestinian human rights."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thai, Saudi officials move to mend fences

BANGKOK (AFP) — Thailand and Saudi Arabia are moving to mend fences over a \$20-million jewel theft that has strained relations since 1989. "Saudi Arabia is ready now to start anew with Thailand," once sufficient progress is made in the jewellery case, The Nation on Sunday quoted Krassae Chawong, chairman of the house foreign relations committee, as saying. The jewellery was stolen from a Saudi palace by a Thai domestic servant who fled to Thailand. He was later returned here, but a large part of the jewels eventually returned to Saudi Arabia turned out to be fake. A Thai police lieutenant-general and seven others, all but one of them policemen, have been charged in connection with the theft, but the missing jewellery has yet to be returned. In recent weeks, Saudi Charge d'Affaires Mohammad Said Khoja has publicly criticised Thailand's handling of the affair, prompting the house foreign relations committee's spokesman to accuse him of breaching diplomatic practice. The Nation said Mr. Krassae had met Mr. Khoja to discuss the affair and quoted Mr. Krassae as saying: "If we were in Saudi Arabia's place, then we would have to say things such as Khoja said. He has all the evidence, and it was evidence produced by us, not himself. For example, a police video shows three bags of jewellery were retrieved from the thief. But in the end, only one-fourth of that was allegedly handed over to Saudi Arabia."

Qatar, Russia expand aviation ties

DUBAI (R) — Qatar and Russia reached an agreement on Saturday to expand aviation ties. The Qatar News Agency said the two sides added an amendment to a memorandum of understanding signed last year. It gives the Russian airline Air Moscow permission to use Doha, Qatar's capital, as a transit point to fly passengers or cargo to Thailand, Philippines, Pakistan, India, South Africa and Iran. The agency quoted Qatar's head of civil aviation, Abdullah Al Nisami, as saying he hoped the agreement would boost Russian tourism in Qatar and help transport Muslim pilgrims from South Africa to holy Muslim sites.

Iraqi opposition team in Kuwait for talks

KUWAIT (AFP) — Members of an Iraqi opposition group, the Iraqi National Congress (INC), held talks here Saturday with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad, the official Kuwaiti News Agency reported. An official spokesman quoted by KUNA said they discussed developments in the Gulf, "in particular Iraq." The Iraqi delegation, led by INC chief Ahmad Jalabi, was paying its first visit to Kuwait, which has given its backing to opposition groups struggling to oust Iraqi President Saddam Hussein whose troops invaded Kuwait in August 1990. In March Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) based in northern Iraq, visited Kuwait, and in July the emirate hosted a visit by Ayatollah Mohammad Bakr Hakim, a prominent Iraqi Shiite opposition figure and head of the Iran-based Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI).

Yoga centre closed in Iran; owners arrested

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iranian authorities have closed a yoga centre in northern Tehran and arrested the owners for failing to abide by Islamic laws, Abbar newspaper reported Sunday. The paper did not specify which laws the family-run centre had violated but said it had not been registered and "failed to abide by the Sharia." Interest in yoga and transcendental meditation has grown among middle and upper-middle class Iranians in recent years and centres for such activities have mushroomed in Tehran and other big cities. Iranian authorities generally tolerate such centres provided they respect Islamic laws and segregate men from women.

Nepal calls on Israel to boost aid projects


TEL AVIV (AFP) — Nepal's Agriculture Minister Ram Chandra Poudel urged Israel to step up cooperation projects in the Himalayan kingdom during a four-day visit which ended here Sunday, officials said. He asked Israel to set up a model rural development programme, saying it could influence other Asian countries which have no ties with the Jewish state. Nepal opened diplomatic relations with Israel in 1960 and Israeli experts have long worked on water purification and agricultural improvements projects in Nepal. Mr. Poudel's trip followed up aid requests from Prime Minister Gurjya Prasad Koirala who visited Israel in June and expressed interest in advanced technology and wind and solar energy devices.

Chinese to train Iranian mineworkers

NICOSIA (R) — Chinese experts will train Iranian workers how to exploit non-ferrous metals at Iran's mines, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Sunday. It quoted the English-language Tehran Times as saying that the Chinese will train Iranian workers in the exploitation of zinc, chromite and copper mines. It said a statement by Iran's Mine and Metals Ministry said the decision was made at a meeting between Minister of Mines and Metals Hussein Mahlouji and the visiting chairman of Chinese national non-ferrous company, Fei Ziwen. "Fei Ziwen has announced that the company's 100,000 experts were ready to furnish their services for training Iranians in various aspects of mine and metal industry," IRNA quoted the ministry statement as saying.

Menem to visit Argentine troops in Cyprus

SKOURIOTISSA, Cyprus (AFP) — President Carlos Menem next Saturday visits Argentine troops patrolling non-man's-land in this divided island to see how they are adapting to life 14,000 kilometres from home. Mr. Menem, whose visit highlights a growing Argentine role in U.N. peacekeeping, will tour U.N. lookout posts between Turkish and Greek Cypriot lines. The 370-strong Argentine task force arrived here in September to work next to British peacekeeping forces — a model for divided Cyprus on how two peoples can overcome their warring past. Lieutenant Colonel Juan Manuel Durante, the Argentine commander here, said his troops representing the army and marines — were manning observation posts and patrolling a rugged 80-kilometre stretch of the buffer zone.



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Aideed supporters mourn dead as his clan sets up rival group

MOGADISHU (AFP) — Supporters of warlord Mohammed Farah Aideed Sunday mourned Somali killed in July 12 U.S. helicopter attack as signs emerged of growing opposition to General Aideed among his clansmen.

More than 1,000 young men and women marched to a Mogadishu villa where they say scores of Aideed aides were killed by helicopter gunships that repeatedly strafed the house, reducing it to a gutted ruin. An enraged Somali mob killed four journalists minutes after the attack.

"Down with the U.N., down with animal Howe," the Aideed supporters chanted in a derisive reference to U.N. special representative Admiral Jonathan Howe.

Under a scorching sun, women in bright saris and men in checked sarongs and sandals packed the courtyard outside the house, still littered with spent bullet cartridges and the rusting, wheel-less wrecks of burnt-out cars.

Gen. Aideed, who last week made his first public appearance since June, did not attend. A woman wrapped in a sweat-soaked blue shawl addressed the crowd through a megaphone from the back of a battered pick-up truck.

She urged the U.N. to release Aideed supporters still detained five days after the U.N. cancelled its arrest warrant for the warlord, accused of masterminding the killings of foreign peacekeepers. Among the detainees are

Aideed's chief financier Osman Ato and two close aides. A group of Gen. Aideed's clansmen meanwhile announced that they had formed a peace committee in a move to halt the warlord's bellicose policies.

"The Aideed leadership brought to the Habr Gedir clan only suffering, enemies and danger," said General Mohammed Nur Galal, the committee chairman and a former army intelligence chief and member of parliament.

"The conflict with the U.N. and the U.S. was the result of bad leadership," said Gen. Galal, who claimed the support of at least three-quarter of the clan.

But Gen. Galal, who like Gen. Aideed helped to overthrow the dictatorship of Mohammed Siad Barre in January 1991, praised the U.N. for abandoning efforts to capture the warlord.

Clan leaders elected the peace committee on Nov. 16 in a move to end hostilities with the U.N. and U.S. as well as other clans. Gen. Galal told reporters in the courtyard of his Mogadishu villa, where he was flanked by five bushy-haired teenage bodyguard cradling Kalashnikovs.

Gen. Galal, a small-built silver-haired 55-year-old wearing a crisp white safari suit, read a statement by the 15-member committee thanking the U.N. and U.S. forces "who saved the Somali people from starvation, disease and genocide."

"I don't believe Aideed will

again be able to gain the support of all the Habr Gedir sub-clans," he said.

"People are impressed when they see a few thousand people at an Aideed demonstration, but there are hundreds of thousands of Habr Gedir in Mogadishu who stay in their houses," Gen. Galal told reporters.

"They are the silent majority." Twelve clan-based factions opposed to Gen. Aideed united in a single organisation, the Somali Salvation Alliance, last week.

They warned that if Gen. Aideed attacked them they would defend each other. Together they represent a majority of the 15 factions that signed U.N.-sponsored peace accord in March.

Somalis say all groups are rearming because they fear civil war could erupt after U.S. forces withdrew in March. Squabbles over how many seats on U.N.-sponsored local councils should go to each clan have already caused scores of deaths in several provincial towns, Somali relief officials said.

Battles across Mogadishu's green line between Aideed militiamen and fighters of his rival warlord, self-styled President Ali Mahdi Mohammed, killed at least 17 people last month.

U.N. officials hope a humanitarian conference on Somalia opening in Addis Ababa on Nov. 29 will help faction leaders including Gen. Aideed to strike new agreements.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 ... Les Aventuriers de L'Espace
18:00 ... Omnisciences
18:30 ... Maguy
19:00 ... The weekly sports magazine
19:30 ... News in Hebrew
20:00 ... News in Arabic
20:30 ... Delta
21:10 ... The House of Eliot
22:00 ... News in English
22:30 ... The Channel

PRAYER TIMES

04:44 ... Fajr
06:02 ... (Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:21 ... Dhuhr
14:13 ... 'Asr
16:38 ... Maghreb
17:56 ... Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetith, Tel. 310740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 63785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624990
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terzian Church Tel. 622666
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Moderate weather conditions will prevail, clouds will build up at different altitudes, and winds will be southerly westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

WEATHER

Min./Max. temp. 12 / 21
Aqaba 16 / 30
Desert 10 / 23
Jordan Valley 19 / 29

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 20, Aqaba 29 Humidity readings: Amman 38 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Razmi Mzawi 794788
Dr. Khalil Al Jishi 740740
Dr. Mohammad Odeh 612252
Dr. Mohammad Lubbedi 653355
Firas pharmacy 661912
Fardous pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nasrallah pharmacy 626672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yaacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660
Najib pharmacy 846752

IRBID:

Dr. Mazen Shairi 248056
Alqasbi pharmacy —

ZARQA:

Dr. Raneh Atallah 984424
Khafif pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department

661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 199
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 894302
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630323
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage —

Complaints

Amman Municipality 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone —

Repairs

Abdali Telephone Repairs 623101
Jordan Television 661101
Radio Jordan 77411
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight information 08-53300
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Zana National Hospital 6920560
Dobal, Riyadh (RJ) 69255
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Sheikhan Hospital 669131
University Hospital 658545
Al-Musaber Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 666164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajir 777016
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 775117/26
Army, Marfa 891617/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/20
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)90560
Al Siba Hospital (09)986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)90990

IRBID:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)27275
Don Al Nades Hospital (02)24710
AQAHA (02)24710
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)3220-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:10 ... Saana (RJ)
08:35 ... Damascus (RJ)
09:00 ... Jeddah (RJ)
09:25 ... Riyadh (RJ)
10:00 ... Beirut (RJ)
10:20 ... New Delhi (RJ)
10:45 ... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
12:45 ... Cairo (RJ)
13:00 ... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 ... Beirut (RJ)
11:00 ... Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)
12:05 ... London (RJ)
12:15 ... Frankfurt (RJ)
12:45 ... Cairo (RJ)
13:00 ... Dhahran (RJ)
13:20 ... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:45 ... Dubai, Karachi (RJ)
14:00 ... Damascus (RJ)
15:30 ... Abu Dhabi, Muscat (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 ... Istanbul (TA)
08:15 ... Beirut (RJ)
08:25 ... Cairo (RJ)
10:25 ... Riyadh (RJ)
11:00 ... Dhahran (RJ)
11:20 ... Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:45 ... Dubai (RJ)
12:45 ... Amsterdam (RJ)

HJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 every Monday
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Bs per kg.

Apple 750/450
Banana 600
Banana (Makassar) 600
Beans 700 / 520
Cabbage 200 / 120
Carrot 200/200
Cauliflower 240 / 160
Cucumber 160 / 100
Cucumbers (large) 150 / 100
Cucumbers (small) 200 / 120
Eggplant 250 / 180
Garlic 300 / 700
Grape 500/480
Grape Fruit 170/150
Guava 250 / 200
Lemon 150 / 80
Mango 180 / 100
Marrow (small) 320 / 280
Mushroom 500 / 480
Mushroom (large) 400/350
Orange 360 / 250
Onion (dry) 220 / 160
Onion (green) 240 / 180
Pepper (hot) 200 / 120
Pepper (sweet) 200 / 120
Potato 320 / 200
Tomato 220 / 200
Spinach 260 / 200

Jordanian, Russian firms to meet in future trade, economic cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — The second day of a roundtable meeting attended by Russian and Jordanian economists, officials and businessmen Sunday ended with an agreement to organise a series of meetings between directors of several firms of both countries to set a stage for future trade and economic cooperation.

A statement issued during the four-day meeting said the Russian and Jordanian participants agreed that directors of firms from their respective countries should meet and exchange ideas and proposals that could contribute to the development of trade exchanges.

The statement said that the directors of these firms could define the needs of Jordanian markets of Russian primary and raw materials, decide on trade fairs to be organised in either country to sell products and examine how market networks in either country can be utilised to sell Russian and Jordanian goods.

The agreement followed a speech by Mohammad Bani Hani, director of the Jordan Exports Development and Commercial Centres Corporation (JEDCO), in which he outlined the corporate endeavours to promote trade.

He noted that JEDCO has opened trade centres in Arab and foreign countries to encourage trade exchange, orient the public in other states about Jordanian products and inform foreign importers on trading with the Kingdom.

Makram Zreikat, deputy director of the Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) for marketing affairs, reviewed the company's processes of extracting and marketing phosphate and briefed the attendants on the phosphate industry in Jordan.

He also discussed areas where joint Russian-Jordanian investment projects in phosphate and other areas can be launched.

According to Awni Okkeh, who represented the Jordanian Businessmen's Association at the meeting, a special committee has already prepared a set of recommendations which cover joint ventures, trade fairs, trade exchange and arrangements for shipments of goods.

Municipal council heads to acquire new skills

QABA (Petra) — The heads of 38 municipal councils in the Irbid, Maan and Karak governorates Sunday started a 5-day seminar here to discuss municipal affairs and problems.

Organised by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment in cooperation with the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB), the seminar is also designed to orient the participants on legal, financial and other matters related to their councils and to provide them with basic information on the role of the local councils in promoting community development.

CVDB Director Zuhair Khalifeh, who deputised for Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Mahdi Al Farhan in

opening the seminar, told the meeting that apart from discussing immediate needs and issues facing the councils, the participants will exchange views and consultations on municipality-related affairs.

Now that the Jordanian society has become a society of institutions, the road to further construction and development has been paved, said Dr. Khalifeh.

Energy remains top priority of many developmental agendas — Prince Faisal

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Sunday opened the Fourth Arab International Solar Energy Conference, noting that "energy was and still is the top priority of the developmental agenda of many countries due to its strong and direct impact on the prosperity of societies."

Prince Faisal, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, at the opening session of the five-day meeting, said "political implications of energy needs could lead to armed conflicts as was evident from recent world developments."

"It is also evident that energy and its use-associated impact are of global concern," said Prince Faisal in his opening address at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC).

He noted that "global and regional cooperation in energy-related matters have not yet developed to the level of genuine commitment towards rectifying energy imbalances and fair distribution."

Renewable energy he said is an issue of prime importance, especially for those countries

with little conventional resources and abundant renewable energy resources.

Noting that such countries lack the proper infrastructure and scientific and technological base to benefit from their favourable climatic conditions, the Prince said "it is crucial that the North and South should cooperate towards technology transfer and experience-sharing." He added that both hemispheres ought to join efforts to combat environmental degradation.

Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Hani Al Mulki briefed the meeting on the society's endeavours in developing alternative energy sources.

Realising that Jordan has been relying totally on imported crude oil to meet its energy requirements, the RSS has taken the initiative towards developing alternative energy sources from solar radiation and wind power, said Dr. Mulki.

"Since 1981, the RSS has been utilising the expertise and skill of advanced nations and has been working in coopera-



tion with research centres specialising in alternative energy sources," said Dr. Mulki.

Outlining RSS achievements in this field, Dr. Mulki said that experiments in the utilisation of solar and wind power have been successful in pumping water from artesian wells under the desert and supplying at least one Jordanian village with electric power produced from solar panels.

Organised by the RSS, the meeting is attended by participants from 25 Arab and European countries, as well as the United States.

Working papers review studies on solar energy, solar radiation, photovoltaics, means of developing solar energy and experiences of the participating nations.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, the Jordan Crafts Centre (Al Aydi) will today (Tuesday) present an exhibition of pottery by Hazim Al Z'ubi.

Also on this occasion, a collection of traditional handwoven rugs will be displayed.

The opening of the exhibition will take place at 4 p.m. at the centre, located at Jabal Amman, Second Circle.

The exhibition will run through Nov. 30.



Children show power of criticism, discernment in exhibition

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Children aged four to 13 from different schools in the Kingdom had the chance to express their feelings regarding the peace process in a photo and drawing exhibition organised by the Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) worldwide on the occasion of the Week of Peace, Nov. 14-20.

"School children got a chance to express their own feelings and views on what peace means to them on a piece of paper," said Layla Najjar, president of YWCA, Jordan.

In addition, Ms. Najjar said, children also represented in their works the misery and sufferings of the Palestinians, Lebanese, Iraqis and Japanese.

Participating in the exhibition were the National Orthodox School, Al Ahlyeh School (CMS), Amman National

School, Al Ra'ed Al Arabi School, New English School, Terra Sancta School, Amman Academy School, Bishop's School and Baqaa camp and Madaba camp kindergartens affiliated to YWCA.

Children showed amazing maturity in presenting a critical opinion on the peace agreement between Israel and the PLO.

Al Ra'ed Al Arabi school children, for example, expressed their disapproval of the accord with some drawings indicating the loss of Palestine and the Jericho-Gaza treaty a surrender by the PLO for the West.

In one drawing, a Palestinian map, is held and squeezed by a hand. Another drawing shows two hands, a Palestinian and an Israeli, shaking while a third hand, with an American flag on it, pushes both down to the ground.

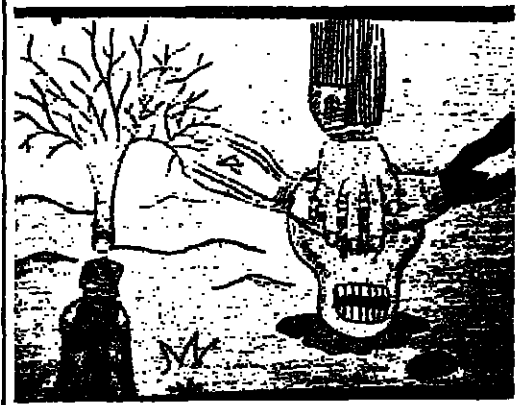
Also on displays were some photos depicting the miserable conditions of the Iraqi children, who suffer from malnutrition and lack of medicine, and of the Lebanese children who have suffered because of the civil war and the Israeli invasion of South Lebanon.

The pictures also show the suffering of the Japanese after the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"Usually, lectures are conducted to address peace issues, but we (YWCA) wanted to do something different, and we wanted to see what our young generation thinks about peace in the world," Ms. Najjar said.

The YWCA, said Ms. Najjar, wanted to invite public schools to participate at the exhibition as well, but it came at short notice and "it is a long procedure to invite public schools because we have to do it through the Ministry of Education."

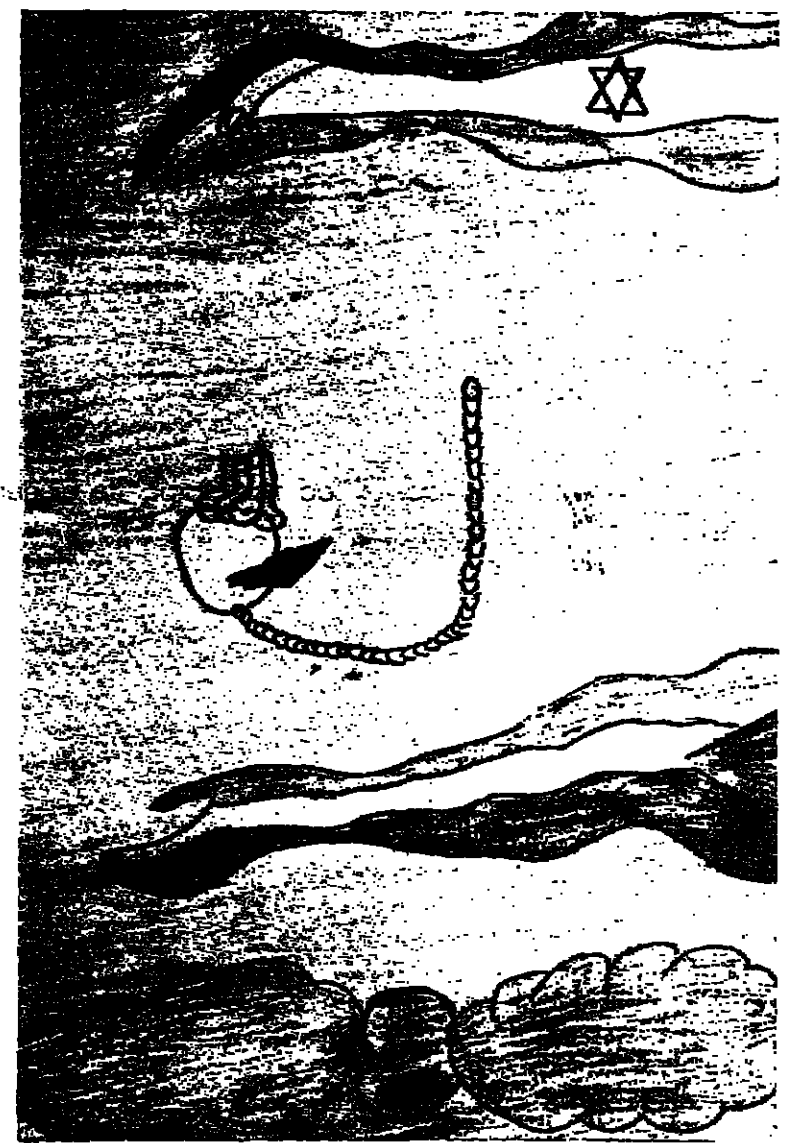
The exhibition went on for two days, Nov. 20 and 21.



Drawing by Mai Jada'an, 10th grader



Drawing by Firas Shurbi



Drawing by Samar Qadourah, 10th grader

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- Graphic exhibition by Syrian artist Sa'd Hajjo at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Iranian trade exhibit (includes industrial and agricultural machinery, construction materials, vehicles, foodstuff, cosmetics, and carpets) at the Exhibition hall on the University Road.
- Exhibition of children's drawings, paintings, and photographs at YWCA premises (11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- Art exhibition by plastic artist Hanaan Al Dasouqi at the student multi-purpose building at the University of Jordan.
- The Palestinian embroidery exhibit at the Royal Cultural Centre (daily 10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.)
- Art exhibition by artist Intisar Qadourah at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel.
- Art exhibition (drawing on mirrors and glass, and ceramics) by women engineers at the Jordan Engineers Association.
- Art exhibition by plastic artist Anwar Haddadin at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition entitled "Mirage" by artist Alia' Al Shanti at Ab'ad Art Gallery — Mecca Street.
- Exhibition of lithographs by a number of artists at the French Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of coins at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Fahmi Al Qaysi at the Alia Art Gallery.
- Art exhibition by artist Ibrahim Al Neshashibi at Baladna Art Gallery (Gardens Street).
- Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Rakan Dabdoub at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).
- Art exhibition by a number of artists at the Student Affairs Deanship Building at the University of Jordan.

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Jordan Times

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No piecemeal peace

THE TUG-OF-WAR between Washington and the capitals of the Arab World over the Arab boycott of Israel took a turn to the worst when the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently recommended to the Senate the passage of legislation that would essentially penalise the Arab countries that still observe the boycott by denying them even defensive weapons. While it is premature to project how the U.S. Senate will deal with this proposal, it is necessary to warn the U.S. senators that any action in this regard might easily undermine the peace process.

To put the issue in perspective, the Arab boycott of Israel should be viewed as being a measure and feature of the state of war that, in the absence of peace, still exists between many Arab states and Israel. No one is recommending the perpetuation of such a state of affairs, and such a boycott would automatically end once peace treaties between Israel and its Arab neighbours are signed. The peoples of this region are yearning for the day when peace reigns in the Middle East and ushers in a new era of regional cooperation on every conceivable level, including of course economic cooperation which would be the centerpiece of the future in the area. But to ask the Arab side to yield on this point as of now, when the peace process has barely started, would be like putting the cart before the horse. Neither international law nor international practice dictate that the Arab World make such a precipitous concession before full peace is attained. The Arab states and Israel have lived with the boycott regime in place for more than four decades and both sides have managed to withstand it. Moreover, the Arab boycott has not been threatened by any stretch of the mind. Surely the U.S. Senate can wait for a little more before it can expect the lifting of the Arab boycott, especially now that peace is just around the corner.

Officially, ending the boycott would be a giant step towards the integration of Israel into the Middle East. Certainly this is no small measure for the Israelis. Such a development is one of their strategic objectives but they should not think they can get it on a silver plate. Peace should be the price for giving on Israel's plea to replace the boycott regime by a more favourable Arab position on international trade affecting Tel Aviv as well. The faster the Rabin government moves on the various peace tracks with the Arab parties, the closer the day will be when the Arab boycott becomes a relic of the past.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily Sunday demanded that the new Parliament deal with the question of lifting the sanctions that have been in place in Iraq for more than three years. We demand that the Parliament take the first step towards ensuring pan-Arab decision to end the sanctions imposed on the Iraqi people who have been suffering for so long and who are dear to the Jordanians, said Taher Al Udwai. The writer said that the present sanctions are not imposed for the sole purpose of ensuring continued Iraqi abstinence by U.N. resolutions but for a political reason that lies with the United States. Washington wants Iraq to mend its fences with Israel by initially joining the Arab parties involved in the peace process and demands that the Iraqi oil flow freely towards the United States, said the writer. Iraq and the Iraqis are of course determined to oppose this demand and therefore the sanctions are bound to continue since Iraq's adamant stand is considered by Washington as a defiance, continued the daily. In light of this situation, one can only hope that the Arabs in general and Jordan in particular take the first step by ending the unjust sanctions on the Iraqi people, said the writer. He said that the Arab countries have their own internal problems, but these should not prevent their governments from taking a historic decision and lift the embargo that had caused so much sufferings to the Iraqis.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour drew attention to the serious problem of lice which infest the heads of the majority of schoolgirls mainly in the government schools. Mohammad Subeili said that women teachers have lately reported increasing instances of lice-infested hair among the girls and were demanding that something be done to deal with this situation. The writer said that the Health Ministry ought to organise regular visits to schools by medical teams and give advice and demonstrations about means of ridding the girls' heads of the lice. The writer said that most of the cases reported by teachers were of girls whose mothers go out to work and have little time to look after their children. The women's work should not be done at the expense of their daughters' health, said the writer. The writer also raised the question of the detergents and shampoo produced in Jordan, citing rumours to the effect that these are being prepared with unclean water. The writer said that the Ministry of Education bears the prime responsibility regarding the girls' situation and should take the initial step to address it.

Jordanian industry — production with no direction

By Izzat R. Dajani

In Jordan, one witnesses a large degree of industrial awareness and production activity. But ironically, the country does not claim to have a clear industrial policy or strategy. The government's attitude to industrialisation remains sentimental and lacks in vigour. Its attempts at incorporating some legislations and measures to support the process of industrial production and export prove sometimes more of a hindrance than of encouragement. The private sector is proud and somewhat arrogant towards its industrial development. However, it appears surprised at its lack of relative progress, particularly in export markets. It is left confused at best and feels let down at the very least. This whole thing appears to have no clear vision or goals.

Jordan is a small country, and to succeed industrially it needs to challenge the following two criteria and incorporate them into its policies: Subordinating its industrial national ego to the world's. It must attempt to do things the world's way. It needs to adopt the international standards of the big industrial powers and make them its own. It is absurd for Jordan to think it must define and impose its own standards. Ride the tide is the magic attitude for small economies trying to develop their industrial growth potential.

— Specialising otherwise

big industrial countries will swallow us up. Jordan cannot compete internationally by simply copying products so diverse that it would make it lose its industrial character.

Interestingly, smaller European countries excelled by specialising in industry, doing things the way the world expects. Sweden became known for ball bearings, Switzerland for medicines and vitamins, Holland for flowers and cheese, and Belgium for chocolates and lace. These are just few examples to support the argument. Where does Jordan fit in all this, and what is it known for? Unfortunately, not much!

Jordan might find it difficult to innovate and develop fast as it is an intermediate between advanced industrial societies and traditional ones. Western style offices with modern instruments of administration and management are found side by side with rural towns and villages run by elders whose political, administrative, religious and social roles are quite traditional in character. Nepotism remains widely practised as much as family goals can often rank higher than country goals.

No matter what opportunities the government makes available, our private companies will not seize them unless equipped to do so. Most companies are still family-owned and top management is controlled by relatives rather than professional

outsiders.

It is important to note that while leadership produces movement, management produces consistency and order. Leadership can force useful change whilst management can create orderly results which keep work efficient. They, however, have similarities in defining what needs to be done and preparing people to accomplish the work by ensuring they are trained to do it efficiently. While leadership is long term, management can be best described as a function that is relatively short term. In Jordan, most industries appear to be either underled or overmanaged. Under insufficient or inefficient leadership, there are adverse effects on expansion, inspiration and innovation. While overmanagement can eliminate risks in the short run, it can enhance complacency, containment and control to the extent of abolishing entrepreneurial spirit.

Industries in Jordan need to focus on recruiting, developing, retaining and motivating people with leadership potential. These will then help with the leadership challenges and aid their industries to adjust in a way that would maximise the benefits from any improvements in the international environment. The business world is very competitive, volatile and tough. The technology is changing fast, making things more complex. Major changes are thus necessary to initially survive and then compete effectively.

This is where leadership, combined with effective management, can make a difference by being truly responsive and quickly adaptive.

Jordan needs to define its industrial national strategy. This is the ability to unite general objectives with the policies and practices needed to help achieve them. The government may have its own objectives, such as income distribution, economic growth, and level of participation in the economic process. Its many policies fiscal, monetary, trade and exchange rate.

It is important to relate Jordan's industrial strategy and performance to world trends. We need to recognise the competition of other developing countries seeking to expand their exports. We do not have enough head start or built-in advantages to ensure success in this industrial race. Jordan does not have many natural resources or raw materials. Energy is expensive, water is scarce and subsidised, and much of the unskilled labour is not indigenous. These factors combined pose a great threat to industrial development, particularly as there is lack of industrial strategy.

It is time for the government to put to function an agency that would manage industrial promotion, industrial sites, tax benefits and export procedures. Technical assistance services are desperately needed to help

small, medium and even large companies to make the transition and help them export. With more efficient use of domestic resources faster growth and better export performance can result. The proceeds from exports are needed to pay for imports by manufacturers (e.g. raw materials) which are vital for continuing industrialisation and technological progress. It is interesting to note here that whilst Germans export to create employment, Japanese do so to import raw materials and energy. Jordanians, however, need to export to achieve both functions!

Jordan has high foreign debt and there is no simple solution to this problem. A comprehensive framework is needed, with strategic objectives, to enable debtor countries to allow more allocation of resources to investment. Jordan's credit-worthiness needs to be strengthened in order to keep the inflow of funds while ensuring industrial continuity and economic growth.

In a global economic environment export opportunities for developing countries are highly dependent on growth and trade policies in industrial countries. We need prudent macroeconomic policies and outward-looking trade and industrial strategies in order to have greater flexibility to maximise on opportunities. We need to take initiative and set timetables that would enable us to see

what we can do. We can also look at the possibilities of altering tariff structures.

In Jordan there are great nationalistic appeals and constant temptations to move from low-tech, small or medium scale industries, to high-tech, large industrial setups. Great limitations need to be recognised here, they include lack of skills, small domestic markets, limited natural resources and possibly not enough money for such huge investments. Also, competing here is almost impossible since technology since technology changes fast while enormous financial resources are needed to cope with technological changes and advancements.

Jordanian industrialists must keep focus on long-term global opportunities and not short-term local advantages. They have to understand what customers want and what are the public policies in their respective countries. There is need to develop long-term customer advantages and establish customer allegiance. Know-how is very important, export should become the industrial motto. It is very important to get employees involved and keep them motivated.

It is high time Jordan looked seriously at revitalising its industrial strategic management and entrepreneurial leadership. It needs vision to evolve, commitment to develop and determination to compete.

Asia, flush with success, looks ahead with uncertainty

By Marcus Eliason
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — In almost every speech these days, Gov. Chris Patten eventually comes to a sentence that brings a faint, wry smile to his lips. It's where he says Hong Kong's per capita gross domestic product, equivalent to \$17,000 a year, is surpassing that of Britain.

The symbolism of the colony outstripping the coloniser is the rise of East Asia in microcosm, an astonishing rag-trick story that is the envy of the recession-stricken West.

The economies of Asia's "tigers" are expected to grow 6.4 per cent this year, compared to 2.6 per cent for the United States and a decline of 0.4 per cent in the 12-nation European Community, according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Even as one generation of tigers — Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea — comes of age, another is revving up: Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia.

After them, say the optimists, will come Vietnam. Then, perhaps, Burma. And North Korea?

With so much vigour and productive energy waiting to burst forth, anything seems possible. After all, few imagined that, in 1993, the world's fastest-growing economy would be in communist China.

Yesterday's cheap-labour industrial nations are now flush with cash and technology, investing in the Asian success

stories of tomorrow.

All this is happening at a time of geopolitical flux. For the first time since World War II, there is no monolithic communist enemy to give Asians and Americans a sense of common purpose. China is now a major trading partner of both.

That means new approaches will be needed, so the Asia-Pacific summit in Seattle last week seemed aptly timed. The 15-nation meeting should give some order and focus to buzz terms like the "Asian century" and President Clinton's new Pacific Community.

Asia resists generalisation. Unlike Europe, it shares no broad religious or historical base lines. Unlike Latin America, it has no common language.

"Little more than a generation ago, Asia was as poor as any place on earth," the Far Eastern Economic Review commented in October.

"South Korea had just recovered from a devastating civil war. Taiwan was not much more than the beleaguered outpost of a defeated government, while Hong Kong was overrun with refugees. Malaysia and Indonesia were on the brink of war. Thailand was preoccupied with communist aggression in neighbouring Indochina, and Singapore gained an uneasy independence in 1965. Only Japan looked healthy."

What produced the miracle? Wise government and "people power", the review concluded. Governments stayed out of the markets and let ordinary business people apply their energy. Still, Asia's production

volume is well short of the West's and the so-called "Asian miracle" owes much to Japan, the region's economic dragon.

Some leading Asian economies also have begun posting slightly lower gains. This is due in part to the Japanese slowdown, measures taken by China to cool its annual growth rate from a runaway 12 per cent, and rising labour costs that drive many Asian factories from rich Asian countries to cheaper ones.

But none of that detracts from the miracle, the experts say.

Japan was due for a shake-out and will be stronger for it, they predict. "A slowdown still means growth," said Shive Chi, an economist at National Taiwan University — maybe not the double digits of the 1980s, but 5 per cent to 6 per cent a year.

Today, the most successful Asian nations savour of the fruits of their labour. Broad middle classes have emerged, demanding democracy, clean air and clean government. With McDonalds and Pizza Hut have come suburbia, golf courses, Michael Jackson concerts, Alpine Ski holidays and the two-car, two-child family.

Washington state and Boeing, builder of the Jumbo Jet that revolutionised trans-Pacific travel, predict the Asia-Pacific region will become their largest foreign market.

"The reality of Asia is with us every day," said Robert Kapp, president of the Washington Council on International Trade. "Asia is just across the way."

A similar attitude is evident in Washington, D.C. Secretary of State Warren Christopher has said recently that "Europe no longer is the dominant area of the world" and "America's future is increasingly linked to Asia."

Asian wealth is far from evenly distributed. Slums and shantytowns mar the skyscraper splendour of many cities. Nearly 60 per cent of the 65 million Filipinos live in squalid, urban shacks or rural huts.

But a recent World Bank study based on caloric intake finds that poverty grips only one-tenth of the people in China. The Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and South Korea, compared to one-third in 1970.

With affluence comes the urge for greater freedom,

although some of Asia's new democracies are fragile, in thrall to big business and vulnerable to the military.

The West is often accused of preaching a brand of democracy alien to the region and damaging to its economic development, but the evidence is that wherever a meaningful vote is offered, people grab it.

Democracy has blossomed in Taiwan, Thailand and South Korea. Cambodians flocked to the polls in May, braving threats of violence. In Hong Kong's 1991 election, pro-democracy candidates won overwhelmingly.

Economic might has bred cultural self-confidence and a corresponding feeling of inferiority among some westerners. "On present trends, (Europe) will come to be seen as the poor relation of the East," James Bartholomew wrote recently in the Daily Mail of London.

No longer do Asians feel compelled to ape every western fad. Asian art and fashion have become world-class. Asian writers have helped revitalise the European literary scene.

But there is little gloating. However slow and inefficient the West may seem, said Stan Lai, a Taiwanese film director, "I see that great foundation: The power that is in the West, the land, the resources, the culture. I don't see that you

would ever have American boat people landing in China."

Poor infrastructure bedevils Asia with traffic jams, pollution and power shortages — problems that western technicians are best able to solve. Asia also looks to the West for technology and services — computers, hospitals, life insurance packages.

China's future growth depends heavily on whether it can acquire enough phone lines, power stations and airliners for its vast interior to catch up with the more-developed coast.

Mr. schive of Taiwan pointed to another western advantage: A settled, unchallenged existence.

The same cannot be said of Hong Kong, which will revert to China in 1997; South Korea, under threat from North Korea, or Taiwan, which China regards as a renegade province.

It is a "constant sense of being insecure" that drives these societies, Mr. Schive says. "No matter how rich they are, they always have to be prepared for anything."

Asia is home to four of the five remaining communist autocracies. China, Vietnam and Laos are opening up to market forces, but North Korea remains a sealed Stalinist dictatorship whose nuclear ambitions worry its neighbours.

Asia's former showcase lags behind

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Once, the Philippines was an Asian showcase, a literate, largely English-speaking nation with democratic institutions and healthy economic growth. Today it is a laggard. Some critics feel the lesson may be that U.S.-style democracy doesn't work in developing Asian nations.

The Philippines became independent of the United States on July 4, 1946, but corrupt governments got in the way of economic progress. While Southeast Asia surges ahead, the Philippine economy has barely grown since 1990.

Nearly 60 per cent of the 65 million Filipinos live in squalid, urban shacks or rural huts. The healthiest economic sector is the army of labourers and servants working abroad.

Some setbacks were beyond the government's control, such as rising oil prices and a devastating 1990 earthquake, but politics bears much of the blame.

About 10 per cent of the population owns more than one-third of the national wealth, through large farms worked by landless peasants and inefficient industries protected by high tariffs. Their wealth finances pliant politicians and promised reforms rarely materialise.

The late President Ferdinand Marcos promised to break the oligarchy, but created his own during eight years of martial rule. His allies got favourable loans and incentives to amass wealth. When the loans went bad, the Marcos government took them over.

By 1986, when Marcos was driven from office, about 75 per cent of bank loans were "nonperforming" which meant public money was used to cover losses.

Corazon Aquino, who succeeded Marcos as president, is from a family of oligarchs. She promised sweeping change, but land reform fell far short of her promises.

Instead, she opted for fiscal austerity that delayed much-needed improvement in such public facilities as electricity, telephone service, roads and harbours.

Banditry, Marxist insurgency and seven coup attempts discouraged foreign investors during Mrs. Aquino's administration. Those threats have diminished under Fidel Ramos, who succeeded her last year, but investors remain leery.

In a free-for-all system more American than Asian, power is diffused among three branches — executive, legislative and judiciary — each protective of its own turf.

When a Taiwanese consortium agreed to build a petrochemical complex in Batangas Province, rivals from a different province got the supreme court to overrule the Batangas site and the deal fell through.

Although the Philippines "had democracy from the word go in 1945, they never got it going because it became a parlour game — who takes power, then gets the spoils," Lee Kwan Yew said when he was prime minister of Singapore.

Australia — goodbye, your majesty, we're Asians now

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — For most of its two centuries, Australia was a distant corner of the British Empire, different from its Asian neighbours and suspicious of them.

Now it plans to throw off the last symbolic links with the British crown by declaring a republic by 2001 and tap into the Asia-Pacific economic boom.

"Asia" is a buzzword for politicians and company executives who go on regular trade missions, and is seeping down to the public.

Japanese, Chinese and Indonesians are replacing French and German as the preferred languages in schools, universities and colleges are assembling Asian programmes, trying to lure the children of wealthy Asian families to study here.

Asian tourists throng to Australia to play golf, see kangaroos and enjoy the sunshine.

Until 20 years ago, a "white Australia" policy restricted immigration to Europeans, preferably British. Last year, nearly half of the 70,000 immigrants accepted were Asian — business people and their investment dollars preferred.

"Australia has lots of land, stable politics and many opportunities," said King Fung of the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce in Sydney. "There is a quality of life here that other places just don't have. Most Australians are tolerant of newcomers and believe their future is with Asia."

Australia's unemployment rate is 11 per cent and "trade with Asia means jobs," Prime Minister Paul Keating said recently.

"Our prosperity, our national well-being, our ability to maintain and build a good society, depend upon our courage in moving boldly to integrate our economy with the economies of Asia."

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Group linking 15 nations, including the United States and Japan, began in 1989 as an Australian initiative.

Since the 1950s, Australia has sold huge amounts of coal, iron ore and wool to Japan, and has a trade surplus with that country.

"We've proved our abilities to trade well with Japan," said Peter Drysdale of the Australian National University in Canberra. "We hope to repeat this across Asia."

Bill Clinton — another Kennedy legacy

By Laurence McQuillan
Reuter

WASHINGTON — As the myths and memories of John Kennedy are recalled 30 years after his death, his legacy is alive in the Clinton White House.

President Clinton, who traces his interest in politics to America's 35th president, does not talk often about Kennedy's influence on his life, but that influence is clear — and has been since Mr. Clinton launched his presidential bid.

During emotional rededication ceremonies for the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston last month, Mr. Clinton spoke of his childhood hero.

Avoiding personal recollections, Mr. Clinton said Kennedy "changed the way we think about our country, our world and our own obligations to the future."

After the formal remarks in the glare of television cameras, however, Mr. Clinton turned what was supposed to be a brief tour of the facility into a detailed inspection of each exhibit — asking a steady stream of questions as he viewed the memorabilia with old Kennedy cronies.

Since that fateful day on Nov. 22, 1963, all presidents, Democrats as well as Republicans, have invoked Kennedy's name to further their particular political cause.

Bill Clinton is different, however. He, like other members of the first generation raised with television and rock



John Kennedy



Bill Clinton

roll, is a product of the Kennedy mystique.

"Bill Clinton did model himself after Kennedy," said Richard Reeves, author of the new biography, "President Kennedy — profile of power."

Mr. Clinton "was a student of the Kennedy campaign... and now that he's president, he's checking the guy out again," said Mr. Reeves, who recently spent hours visiting the White House so the current president could discuss his predecessor.

Kennedy and Mr. Clinton are "alike in so many ways," said Mr. Reeves, noting that "Kennedy had this chaos around him and as far as I'm concerned Clinton does too... they wanted these jobs because that's where the action was."

Long-time friends from

Allen, co-author of The Comeback Kid, a Clinton biography.

That picture was used prominently in Mr. Clinton's campaign to unseat Republican George Bush. And last July, 30 years to the day after he had been one of the few in his group to grasp Kennedy's hand, Mr. Clinton invited another contingent of boys' nation delegates to the White House.

Standing at roughly the same spot in the Rose Garden where he stood three decades before, Mr. Clinton shook hands with each boy present and made sure a White House photographer captured the moment before he let go.

Mr. Clinton is the first person still in his 40s to be president since Kennedy, a feat that invokes the kind of generational change that Kennedy's election brought to the Washington landscape some three decades ago.

Mr. Clinton's travel during his first year in office does more than leave his mark across the country — it follows in Kennedy's footsteps. From a warehouse at the port of New Orleans to a small high school football stadium in Los Alamos, New Mexico to a hotel in Boston, Kennedy had been there before him.

And Kennedy's bust sits in the Oval Office, just behind the large oak desk that was once used by the nation's 35th president — and now carries the workload of its 42nd chief executive.

Right to self-determination — 'most abused and neglected'

By W leed Sadi

ONE OF the most misread articles in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) is Article 1. The first part of this provision reads as follows: "All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural rights." The other relevant section of this article stipulates that "the state parties to the present Covenant, including those having responsibility for the administration of Non-Self-Governing and Trust territories, shall promote the realization of the right of self-determination, and shall respect that right, in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations." This second part has special significance to the Israeli-Palestinian negotiating process since Israel had ratified the ICCPR in 1992 and is treaty obligated to facilitate the Palestinians' exercise of their right of self-determination.

Human Rights File

On the surface of things, these legally binding principles cause no controversy because the world is used to invoke them only regarding peoples that are struggling or aspiring for national identity and independence. In our region of the world, the Palestinian people are the only people who are resorting to this cardinal principle in their efforts to attain sovereignty and statehood. Not so, ruled the Human Rights Committee, the international tribunal that monitors the implementation of the ICCPR and construes the scope and import of its 53 articles. In a series of pronouncements in the course of investigating periodic and emergency state reports, both written and oral, the quasi-judicial human rights body has ruled that the right of self-determination is not limited to the non-self-governing peoples seeking independence.

Rereading the once presumed clear provision on the right of self-determination would readily reveal that in fact this right is not just one, once in a lifetime right that peoples enjoy in seeking international recognition as part of the comity of nations. When paragraph 1 of Article 1 of the Covenant begins

by saying that "all peoples" have the right of self-determination without qualifying that by providing that peoples who do not enjoy independence, it became clear that the right of self-determination is a continuous process rather than an initial stage in the formation of state-nations. How else would peoples continue to determine their political status and their economic, social and cultural development if they are denied perpetual opportunities for these purposes? Peoples cannot be expected to determine their economic development or their social and cultural progress only when they attain independence. Had this been the case, it would have made a mockery of the right to self-determination.

That is why there is an increasing number of countries which, in reporting on their application and implementation of Article 1 of the ICCPR, provide that their peoples are enjoying this right by regularly held national elections through which they periodically determine their political status as well as their form of economy and type of social and cultural goals and objectives. Admittedly western democracies are spearheading this interpretation of the right of self-determination but an increasing number of developing countries are following suit.

In retrospect, this line of thinking makes sense because the international community has repeatedly witnessed the replacement of foreign or external colonialism in the fifties and sixties by internal colonialism through the introduction of totalitarian authoritarian or other forms of undemocratic rule. The peoples in such newly independent states continued to be denied freedom and an opportunity to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. Likewise, people in old and independent states of the world which denied them periodic free opportunities to cast their votes for the purpose of choosing their representatives in a pluralistic way are also prevented from enjoying the right of self-determination.

Against this backdrop, the right of self-determination is the most abused and neglected right that many peoples across the world are still being denied. Since this right is basic to the implementation of other human rights, it would seem proper to redirect the attention of the international community to it as a matter of the highest priority.

The Kennedys — public lives of triumph and tragedy

By Christopher Wilson
Reuter

HYANNIS PORT, Mass. — From the wide veranda of her home here on Cape Cod, Rose Kennedy can look out across the lawn where those famous games of touch football were played, to the cobalt blue bay where her son John loved to sail his boat, the "Victoria."

Those sunlit scenes of America's most famous family are being played and replayed across the nation in a blizzard of made-for-TV movies, magazine specials and new books as the 30th anniversary of the assassination of president John Kennedy approaches.

But for Rose, the 103-year-old matriarch of the Kennedy clan, there can be no more difficult time.

It was in the Hyannis Port house, built by her husband Joseph Kennedy, that she received the news of the violent deaths of four of her nine children.

Her eldest son Joseph was killed in World War II, her daughter Kathleen died in a 1948 plane crash, President John Kennedy was killed by an assassin's bullets in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, and Senator Robert Kennedy was murdered in Los Angeles in 1968.

Settlers

(Continued from page 1)

He told settlers at Shadmoth Meholah in the Jordan Valley: "I think some of the settlements will be moved and others will be under foreign rule and that we'll have to fight to maintain one or two settlement regions in line with our security needs."

According to the Israeli-PLO agreement, the settlements' future must be reviewed during talks on the final status of the territories, to begin no later than the third year of the autonomy scheme.

as he campaigned for president.

The House, the original building in a compound that now includes half a dozen homes all belonging to Kennedys, is not a grand place or a mansion, but rather a rambling wooden Victorian house in the Cape Cod style, with shuttered windows and sweeping views.

Inside it is crisscrossed with photographs and framed letters from presidents, kings and prime ministers. The couch in the living room hasn't been recovered since Pope Pius XII sat there many years ago, and the TV remote control in one corner is plastered with typed instructions to help an old woman find the right buttons.

Off the living room is John's bedroom. Plain, almost spartan, it's centerpiece is a wooden four-poster bed left much the same as it was when he last slept there.

On a wall hangs a black-and-white photograph of the full Kennedy family, complete with a diagram of silhouettes giving all their names.

Once described by John as the glue that held the family together, Rose, is today confined to her home after a series of strokes that has left her too frail even to attend mass at the local Catholic church.

The woman who, in a life of triumph and tragedy never shed a tear in public, gave to her children a powerful sense

of the importance of public service as well as the duty that accompanies being born to wealth and power.

"She instilled in all of us the four most important things in our lives," her only surviving son, Edward, now a senator from Massachusetts, said on her 100th birthday. "Her love of family, her sense of history, her interest in politics and a commitment to serving others."

Today many of the Kennedy's work in the public sector, or are involved in public life. Here is a list of what has happened to the immediate family of John Kennedy 30 years after his death:

— Jacqueline Kennedy

Onassis, widow, 64, divides her time between homes in New York City, Martha's Vineyard and New Jersey. She works three days a week as an editor at publisher Doubleday in New York. Her frequent companion over the past 10 years has been diamond dealer and financier Maurice Tempelman, 64, a major Democratic Party contributor whom she has known for more than 30 years.

— John Kennedy Jr., son, 33, a graduate of Brown University and New York University Law School — not Harvard, the alma mater of most of the Kennedy men. He later worked as an assistant district attorney in New York City. Dubbed

"the sexiest man alive" by People magazine in 1988, he is currently dating actress Daryl Hannah. Rumours of marriage plans for the two have remained just that.

— Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, daughter, 35, graduated from Harvard University and is now president of the Presidential Library Foundation. In 1986 she married Edward Schlossberg, an artist and designer. They have three children.

— Edward Kennedy, 61, John Kennedy's only surviving brother. A Democrat from Massachusetts, he is one of the longest serving members of U.S. Senate, dividing his time between Boston and Washing-

ton. He divorced his first wife Joan in 1982 and last year married Victoria Reggie, a Washington lawyer.

— Eunice Kennedy Shriver, sister, 66, present U.S. ambassador to Ireland. Prior to her appointment in April 1993, she was best known for her work in founding the very special arts programme, which seeks to make the arts more accessible to millions of adults and children. Ms. Smith was thrust in to the media spotlight two years ago when her son, William-Kennedy Smith, was accused but later acquitted of raping a woman at the family's Palm Beach estate.

— Patricia Kennedy Lawford, sister, married and later divorced the late actor Peter Lawford. She has homes in Santa Monica, California and New York. She has three daughters and a son, Christopher, an actor in Hollywood.

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مدرسة البكالوريا - عمان

تود مدرسة البكالوريا - عمان اعلامكم بانها بتواجد لديها عدد قليل من تذاكر الباصات لسيارة فيروزا دابهاشيو، علما بانها سيتم السحب يوم الاربعاء الموافق ١٩٩٣/١١/٢٤ في حفل عشاء المجمع الرياضي بفندق الاردن - انتركونتيننتال. وسيتم نشر النتائج بالجرائد المحلية. بإمكانكم شراء التذاكر مباشرة من موظف الاستقبال بالمدرسة. للاستفسار، بإمكانكم الاتصال بهاتف ٨٤٥٥٧٢. ٨٤٧١١١ - ٢٠٣

تذكير

تود مدرسة البكالوريا - عمان اعلامكم بان حفل عشاء المجمع الرياضي المزمع اقامته في فندق الاردن - انتركونتيننتال سيتم في الموعد المقرر، يوم الاربعاء الموافق ١٩٩٣/١١/٢٤ الساعة الثامنة والنصف مساء.

نتمنى حضوركم

الإدارة

REMINDER

The Amman Baccalaureate School would like to announce that the Sports Complex Dinner will be held as scheduled, on Wednesday Nov. 24, 1993, at 8:30 p.m. at the Jordan International Hotel.

Administration

AMMAN BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

The Amman Baccalaureate School would like to inform you that it has a small number of lottery tickets still available for the Daihatsu Feroza Car lottery. The lottery will be held on Wednesday Nov. 24, 1993, during the Sports Complex Dinner Party at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel. Results will be advertised in the local newspapers. Tickets can be bought directly from the school's receptionist. For any queries, school phone numbers: 845572, 847191-2-3.

Administration

APEC: New voice for Asia-Pacific

BLAKE ISLAND, Washington (R) — Pacific rim leaders capped their first summit Saturday by forming a loose economic community, seeking new global clout amid what President Bill Clinton called winds of change blowing through the world.

Bundled up like schoolboys in colorful windbreakers, parkas and mufflers on this windswept, wooded island 13 kilometres out in Seattle harbour, the 14 presidents and prime ministers from the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group concluded a four-day regional conference with an "economic vision statement" issued from a rambling Indian long-house replica made of logs.

Mr. Clinton underscored as the leaders concluded a half-day summit that the new informal economic group was an "open" one and no threat to Europe.

Later, in a farewell speech at a coast guard station before he left Seattle, he said there were no longer clear dividing lines between defence and economic policy and survival means successful competition in the world marketplace.

"No free society is immune from the winds blowing through the world today," he said. "We have to find a way to make these changes our friend

and not our enemy."

The APEC group agreed to meet again late next year in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Mr. Clinton's guests gave the meeting good reviews, reflecting relief among wary Asians that they had finessed any U.S. attempt at regional domination through a formal trade bloc.

China's President Jiang Zemin, who rebuffed U.S. calls for improved Chinese human rights during a private summit Friday, was conciliatory Saturday, saying their meeting in itself "contributed to mutual understanding... it marks a new and good beginning in Sino-U.S. relations."

A beaming Jiang concluded his final news conference by ignoring his interpreter and proclaiming in heavily accented English, "Happy Thanksgiving, everybody," the annual U.S. holiday is Thursday.

Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating told reporters the summit had "diminished fears some countries might have had about the U.S. and its motives and the whole development of APEC. A lot of those things fell to the wayside."

The main message from the APEC summit—a forum of 17 nations although only 14 were present—was summarised in the economic "vision" man-

ifesto released during a three-hour morning session and heralded by Mr. Clinton as a great breakthrough even though it appeared more lip-service to a concept than legally binding structure.

"Our meeting reflects the emergence of a new voice for the Asia Pacific in world affairs," it said. "We believe our dynamic region, representing 40 per cent of the world's population and 50 per cent of its GNP, will play an important role in the global economy... Our economies are moving towards interdependence and there is a growing sense of community among us."

The wording apparently reflected compromise between the United States, which wanted a strong push toward a formal trade alliance, and Asians opposed to a formal structure.

The statement repeated APEC's demand for conclusion of a new reformed worldwide trading agreement in Geneva by Dec. 15. It also set forth a seven-point credo for APEC's own economic cooperation including a "spirit of openness and partnership," efforts to reduce barriers to commerce and a push for "an open international trading community."

Speaking for the group at an outdoor news conference

under towering fir trees and decorative totem poles, Mr. Clinton summarised their achievements.

"We've agreed that the Asia-Pacific region should be a united one, not divided. We've agreed that we should begin to express that conviction by doing everything we possibly can to get a good GATT agreement by Dec. 15."

The latter was a reference to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the proposed new worldwide trading rules.

Asked if the group was leaving the island what message Europe should draw from all this, Mr. Clinton said: "The message to Europe is, we want this to be a united but open community. We want Europe to work with us to get a good GATT agreement by the end of the year."

Nonetheless, this meeting put Mr. Clinton's stamp on a new U.S. approach to world affairs in which foreign policy is weighted toward economic concerns and oriented toward Asia.

He looked unusually relaxed as spokesman for this group, lounging against the rostrum like an easy-going professor, answering questions with his cheek resting on his left fist. The other leaders slouched behind him like schoolyard

chums, their hands thrust into their pockets, chuckling at his laugh-lines on cue.

Surrounded by coast guard cutters and police gunboats, they had sailed 30 minutes by ferry across Puget sound to a replica Indian village for a conclave aimed at cementing closer ties.

Security was so tight that divers were used to scour boats in the harbour for explosives.

A small flotilla of green-peace zodiac rafts hovered offshore in a protest against waste dumping in the Pacific. Rising high after his North American Free Trade Agreement, victory in Congress, Mr. Clinton was pulled down a notch Friday in meeting with Mr. Jiang and Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, who both stood firm on long-standing disputes.

But the GATT proclamation was a victory for him.

APEC groups Australia, Canada, Brazil, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, the Philippines, Papua Guinea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States.

Malaysia boycotted the summit. Mexico and Papua New Guinea were just voted into membership at the Seattle meeting.

South Africa set to become key trading partner for M.E.

ABU DHABI (AFP) — South Africa is set to become a major trading partner for wealthy Gulf Arab states, despite its late entry into the lucrative market because of anti-apartheid sanctions.

Economic links have increased dramatically since the oil-rich Gulf countries informally lifted their boycott two years ago.

Trade between South Africa and the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has risen from negligible levels while sanctions were in force to more than \$30 million in the first half of 1993, according to official Gulf figures.

Most trade was with Dubai, the Gulf's main commercial centre and a key transshipment point in a region of more than 1 billion consumers.

South Africa, previously a pariah in the region, is targeting Dubai in its bid to penetrate the Gulf and other main reexport markets in Iran, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Turkey.

Mayor calls for more aid to Third World

PARIS (AFP) — UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor has accused wealthy countries of short-sightedness in failing to devote more than 0.7 per cent of their budgets to developing countries.

In a strongly-worded message he said the only way to achieve world peace was to help developing countries, especially in the southern hemisphere.

The corner stones of peace today were education and outside aid to promote development, he maintained.

But "we are sending soldiers instead of teachers," he said.

"If we want to avoid the violent excesses caused by poverty and despair, if we want to slow down world population growth, if we want to avoid large-scale emigration, if we want to sow the seeds of peaceful coexistence in those places where they are today harvesting the fruits of suspicion and intolerance, then the developed countries will have to invest in a collective security before it is too late."

Mr. Mayor urged countries to increase their donation to some three per cent of their gross domestic product within the next five years.

He recalled that the organisation's three target areas for the next six years were Africa, women and developing countries.

He told a press conference that the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) had to return to its intellectual goal of promoting peace and security through collaboration among nations.

Chinese sell machinery, tyres for millions of dollars at two exhibitions in UAE

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Chinese firms Sunday said they sold industrial machinery, automobile tyres and other items worth millions of dollars at two international exhibitions in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The companies exhibiting at the industrial machinery show said they had struck deals worth around \$30 million and negotiations were underway on deals valued at more than \$30 million, organisers said.

"The exhibition constituted an important opportunity for Chinese companies to boost

trade links with this region," a statement quoted Li Ping, projects director at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, as saying. "We will be back next year and our participation will be bigger because the regional markets can match the rapid economic growth in China."

More than 620 companies from 32 countries took part in the industrial machinery fair and another exhibition of general products in the port of Dubai, the Gulf's main commercial centre.

China alone sent around 150 companies as part of a drive to

enter the lucrative market, which is dominated by Japan, the United States, the European Community (EC) and other major industrial powers.

China's trade with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has steadily grown over the past decade to reach around \$1.5 billion in 1992, mostly Chinese exports. But it remains low compared with the Gulf's trade with Japan and the EC of \$36 billion and \$35 billion respectively.

Chinese firms participating at the second exhibition also reported deals worth \$6 mil-

lion. But the statement said the figure would more than double when more deals are finalised during current negotiations.

The deals covered mainly

tyres. The exports are projected to grow by 20 per cent in 1994. "Chinese tyre makers which participated in the exhibition are considering expanding their presence in the region through setting up an industrial venture in the Dubai Jebel Ali Free Zone or other parts of the Gulf," the statement quoted Li Chan, head of the Chinese Rubber Manufacturers Union, as saying.

Alcazar European air merger plan collapses

AMSTERDAM (R) — Alcazar, one of the most ambitious airline mergers ever attempted, was left on the runway Sunday when four European carriers abandoned talks after they failed to decide which U.S. partner to take on board.

"Austrian Airlines, KLM, SAS and Swissair have terminated their negotiations on the Alcazar project envisaging a far-reaching alliance," they said in a joint statement.

"The airlines continue to hold fundamentally different views on a U.S. partnership," they added.

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Scandinavian Airlines System, Austrian Airlines (AUA) and Swissair first announced their cooperation talks in January.

They had aimed to create a "European fortress" — airline big enough to compete in a liberalised market. The code-name Alcazar derives from the Spanish-Moorish word for a four-cornered fort.

Their aim was to create Europe's largest carrier, rivaling low-cost competitors in the United States and East Asia.

The collapse of the talks throws the airlines into a dilemma about how to negotiate a liberalised aviation market. Europe's skies are due to be thrown open to free competition, a process which in the United States in the late 1970s spawned fierce competition and ultimately some bankruptcies.

months over whether to link with Delta Air Lines on North-west Airlines. A U.S. partner was deemed essential to feed American travellers into trans-Atlantic routes which account for 45 per cent of the global aviation market.

Swissair, which has a loose alliance with Delta, was worried that KLM's partner Northwest was financially weak and it argued that the U.S. would not extend the liberal aviation pact it currently has with the Netherlands to other European countries.

KLM wanted the new entity to extend the tie it has built up with Northwest, in which it owns a 20 per cent stake, by using anti-trust immunity and the liberal "open skies" pact

with America.

The question facing medium-sized carriers is whether to try to carve out a niche as small regional players or forge alliances to have a hand in the global market serving intercontinental passengers.

"People are going to wonder what future is there for these mid-sized European carriers?" Guy Keckwick, aviation analyst at Lehman Brothers in London, said.

SAS, which is 50 per cent owned by the governments of Norway, Denmark and Sweden through a complex structure, is widely believed to be the most vulnerable of the four.

Senate backs NAFTA

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) cleared its last major hurdle Saturday, winning Senate approval and giving President Bill Clinton one of the biggest victories of his first year in office.

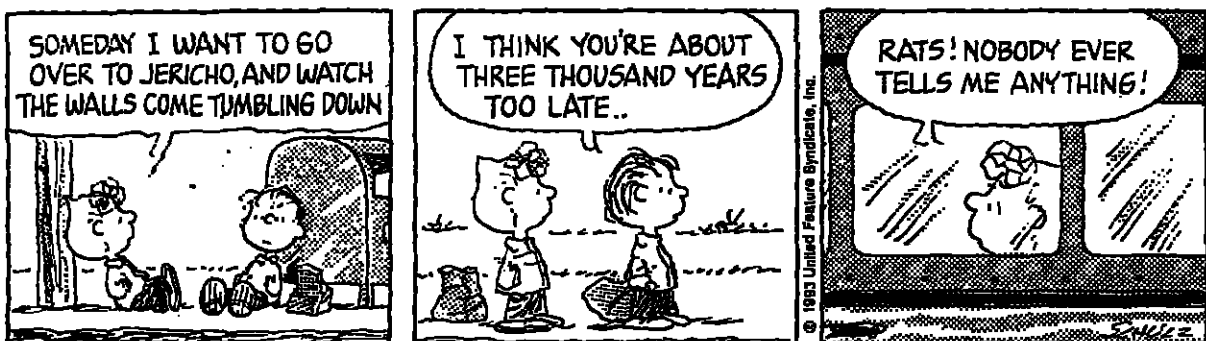
The Senate's 61-38 vote came three days after the House of Representatives approved the accord, which will join the United States, Mexico and Canada in the world's largest free trade area.

Unlike the House vote, in which the White House fought tooth-and-nail for votes, practically down to the wire before winning by a comfortable 234-200 margin, NAFTA was never really in danger in the Senate.

The accord had sparked a legislative battle that crisscrossed traditional party lines, with the Democratic White House relying mainly on Republican backing while traditionally Democratic labour unions and many Democrats voted against the president.

In his weekly radio address, taped before the Senate vote, Mr. Clinton said: "NAFTA is more than a trading bloc. It's building block in our efforts to assert America's global leadership on behalf of American jobs and opportunity."

Peanuts



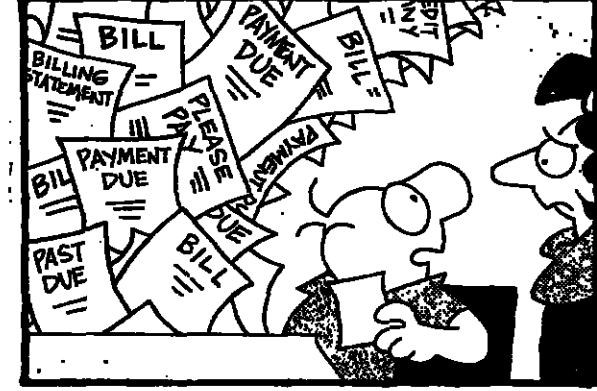
Andy Capp



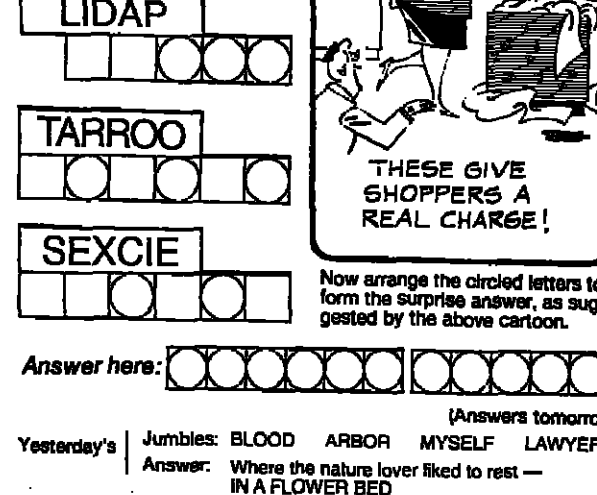
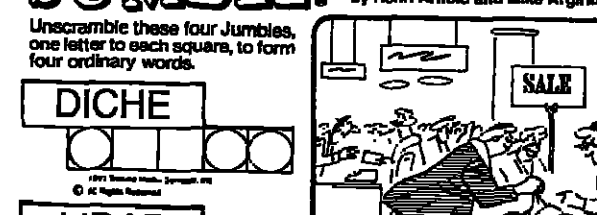
Mutt'n'Jeff



THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE



THE Daily Crossword by Raymond Hamel



Handwritten text in Arabic script: "سكنا على الجبال"

115 die in Macedonia air crash

SKOPJE (R) — A Macedonian airliner crashed into a hill and exploded near the tourist resort of Ohrid Saturday and an investigation official said all but one of the 116 passengers and crew were killed.

Dragan Trpkovski, head of the commission investigating the disaster, said the only survivor was a 20-year-old man who was one of 15 people hurled from the Russian-built YAK 42 by the impact.

Salvage teams who struggled through the dark to reach crash site saw corpses burning in the wreckage and one eyewitness called it "a picture from a nightmare."

The airliner, leased in the Ukraine by the Macedonian company Aviotimpex, was flying to Skopje from Geneva with 108 passengers, including children.

Its Ukrainian pilots diverted to Ohrid Airport, 160

kilometres south of the Macedonian capital, when snow closed Skopje Airport.

Ohrid Police Chief Zoran Siskovski said the plane ploughed into a hillside 1,300 metres above sea level just before midnight (2300 GMT).

The alarm was given by a guard at the airport who saw a sudden burst of flame in the dark above Lake Ohrid.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known but Mr. Trpkovski said the YAK's flight recorders had been found.

Another flight of the same aircraft had landed safely at Ohrid earlier in the day from Zurich.

Geneva Airport sources said the departure of its second flight had been delayed for several hours by bad weather.

Many of the passengers were believed to be Albanians from

the Kosovo region of Macedonia's northern neighbour Serbia, they added. Many Kosovo Albanians work in Switzerland.

Police official Goce Trajanovski said the heat from the blazing wreckage was too intense to allow rescuers to get close.

Television pictures at the site after daybreak showed smoking wreckage surrounded by trees on a snowy hillside. Only the tail was intact.

The YAK appeared to have bounced back into the air after hitting the hill and came to rest about 150 metres from the original impact.

Rescuers thought the survivor's fall had been cushioned by trees.

The man, a Yugoslav citizen who was able to whisper his name Slobodan, was taken to Ohrid Hospital suffering se-

vere internal injuries.

People from the nearby village of Lakocere were among the first to get to the crash in wild country which can be reached only by muddy tracks churned during recent wet weather.

Rescue worker Risto Jovanovski told Macedonian Radio: "We saw burning corpses inside the aircraft and many corpses that were burning around the plane on its right side."

The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in former Yugoslavia, which has a monitoring mission in Macedonia, sent a helicopter to assist.

It was Macedonia's second air disaster this year. A Fokker 100 leased by the Macedonian company Palair crashed after take off from Skopje Airport in March, killing 79 people.

Russian election campaign shifts gear

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's first parliamentary election campaign slips into a higher gear this week when parties and blocs battle for space on television, the most powerful of the nation's media platforms.

All 13 registered groups have been allotted a series of unpaid 30-minute slots from Monday to seek support in a country so far showing little sign of a struggle for power.

Bloc leaders are preparing a hard final push towards Dec. 12 polls Boris Yeltsin hopes will yield a legislature obedient to his command.

So far, only a few banners span thoroughfares in Moscow, a capital in the grip of the snows of an early, cold winter.

The Democratic Party of centrist Nikolai Travkin tells voters in bold blue lettering: "It will be better with us."

Deputy Premier Sergei Shakhrai's Party of Russian Unity and Accord (PRES) advises passing citizens it is "Russia's hope," while militant nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, in an early sprinkling of posters appearing on walls, soothingly declares: "I will protect Russians" and "you will all be fine with me."

Russia's Choice, which claims the mantle of the chief pro-Yeltsin grouping, and the

Democratic Party made their first appearances on television screens last Thursday in short, paid advertisements — a luxury not all participants can afford.

The relative wealth of the various blocs will likely be reflected in the quality of the broadcasts prepared by the groups, some such as Russia's Choice and PRES can afford professional advisers for a polished presentation.

The Communist Party of the Russian Federation says it is making no special effort with its television campaign.

"Television means nothing to us," Grigory Yavlinsky, one of the top party candidates, told Reuters. "Our strength lies in our network of activists throughout the country. No one can compete with us on that level."

The Communist Party was briefly suspended by President Yeltsin after the Oct. 3 uprising that followed the president's abolition of the old parliament. But, restored to action, it now operates a wide complex of party cells inherited from the old ruling Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Estimates of their support range from five per cent to 30

per cent. Their main asset in the race for the new 450 seat Duma or lower house could be the disunity of the competing pro-reform groups.

Russia's Choice is calling for formation of a loose pro-reform coalition for the final week of the campaign. But there is no assurance the competing blocs and, more to the point, their leaders, will find common ground.

Russia's Choice enjoys a clear advantage in everyday television exposure since many of its leading candidates are ministers. Transport and other facilities are also at their disposal in their official state capacity.

Mr. Shakhrai, who projects himself as a conservative force tempering reform with tradition, piled viewers with an odd combination of economic assurances and film of the old Soviet era in his first paid advertisement.

Pictures of an old Soviet nuclear submarine pressing out to sea stressed the importance of a strong Russia while film of old mammoth engineering project and happy workers played, at the risk of comparisons with Socialist propaganda, on latent nostalgia for a lost age of self-confidence.

The crucial last three weeks

of the campaign will also decide the fate of a draft constitution presented by Mr. Yeltsin soon after he used tanks to crush a Communist-nationalist rebellion on Oct. 4. Mr. Yeltsin needs at least 50 per cent support from those taking part in a referendum held parallel with the elections.

Mr. Yeltsin sees the constitution, giving sweeping powers to the president, as vital for the stability of the country. Economist Grigory Yavlinsky, leader of one of the strongest pro-reform blocs, said at the weekend he feared the new-style presidency could prove a dictatorship if it later fell into militant hands.

Mr. Zhirinovskiy, head of the strongly nationalist Liberal Democratic Party, holds great hopes for the system Mr. Yeltsin is fostering, he hopes, for his succession. "This is the very constitution we wanted," he told Reuters.

Mr. Zhirinovskiy won six per cent in the 1991 Russian presidential elections. His share seems unlikely to rise above this in December. But the nationalist, who advocates restoration of a Russian empire, hopes the failure of today's "democrats" will soon move Russians to vote for him.

EC to approve Bosnia aid plan, offer deal to Serbia

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) will approve plans for setting up safe aid corridors in Bosnia as winter begins to bite and hold out a promise to Serbia Monday that sanctions could be suspended as part of a peace deal.

Foreign ministers from the 12 EC nations, meeting in Luxembourg, will send a clear signal to Belgrade that international sanctions could be suspended if Bosnia's Muslims get more land in a peace agreement.

With U.N. relief convoys stalled on the snow-covered ground in Bosnia, they will also call for special corridors to be set up from the Adriatic coast and for the reopening of Tuzla Airport so that relief supplies can get through unhindered.

"With winter coming, need is on the increase while our ability to give humanitarian help is worsening," German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel

said last week. "The trap of suffering must not be allowed to close further."

EC leaders agreed at a summit last month that "all appropriate means" should be used to make sure aid gets through and several thousand extra troops will probably be needed to protect the routes.

But the West is reluctant to use force because it could be dragged into full-scale intervention. Diplomats said the EC was pinning its hopes on pledges last week from the warring Croats, Muslims and Serbs that interference with aid would stop.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that 2.7 million people in Bosnia, where Serbs, Croats and Muslims have fought for 19 months, will depend on international aid to survive the forthcoming winter.

Aid to some areas of Bosnia was suspended last month after a Danish convoy truck driver

was killed. But international mediator Lord Owen, who is expected to attend the EC meeting in Luxembourg, has cast doubt on whether Bosnia's warring factions would honour last week's pledge.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating," Lord Owen said Friday. "I'll believe it when I see it."

Lord Owen said aid should continue through the winter but suggested it should stop if fighting carried on into the spring.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd has also said aid could dry up unless the warring factions cooperate.

Until now the West has blamed Serbia for much of the conflict in former Yugoslavia. The EC proposal to relax sanctions against Belgrade — first suggested by France and Germany — marks a change in attitude.

But the EC has toned down the original proposal, which

said that there should be a promise sanctions would be lifted, in the face of opposition from the United States which criticised as a reward for what Washington sees as Serb aggression.

Any lifting of sanctions would require approval from the U.N. Security Council, on which the United States has a seat.

Instead of a promise to lift sanctions, the Community will instead hold out the prospect that they could be suspended — leaving the door open to imposing them again if no progress towards peace is made.

EC diplomats argue that such a move is vital to get peace and that, since the West is not prepared to use force or lift an arms embargo to help the Muslims, using a "carrot and stick" approach with sanctions is the only real option. "Anything else is just wishful thinking," said one diplomat.

Mrs. Mandela in shock after shootout

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Winnie Mandela was under sedation Sunday after her driver was shot dead in central Johannesburg while she was a passenger in the front seat.

African National Congress (ANC) officials said Mrs. Mandela, who is the estranged wife of Nelson Mandela and was once known as "mother of the nation", was shocked by the shooting and was resting at her home in the black township of Soweto.

Police said a black man approached her car in heavy traffic on Saturday night, pulled open the door and shot her driver-bodyguard John Lawrence with a handgun.

Mr. Lawrence fired back, killing the gunman. A second man who picked up the murder weapon was arrested a few metres away, police said. Mrs. Mandela was in the front passenger seat.

Police and ANC officials said the motive was still being investigated but it could have been an attempt to hijack Mandela's Japanese car.

Johannesburg is notorious for armed car hijackings and police frequently warn motorists to drive with their doors locked and windows closed.

Mrs. Mandela, 54, was once one of South Africa's most popular anti-apartheid activists but many of her colleagues turned against her in recent years.

Two years ago she was convicted of kidnapping four black youths in Soweto. One of her bodyguards was found guilty of murdering one of the boys.

Shortly after the kidnapping trial Nelson Mandela announced their separation amid newspaper reports of a liaison between Mrs. Mandela and a younger man.

Mrs. Mandela was elected to a post in the Johannesburg



Winnie Mandela

branch of the ANC earlier this month, virtually assuring her candidacy for South Africa's first non-racial election next April.

Police Colonel Van Dyk Kruger told AFP that police believed the attack was sparked by a quarrel between Mandela's bodyguard, John Lawrence, and two pedestrians in the street rather than an assassination attempt on the controversial Mrs. Mandela.

"This was definitely not a political attack," Col. Kruger said. Police had, however, taken the precaution of providing protection at Mrs. Mandela's house in Soweto black township near here, he added.

ANC Spokesman Carl Niehaus, said the ANC had not immediately ruled out the possibility of an assassination attempt on Mrs. Mandela.

Col. Kruger said that it appeared that Mr. Lawrence had become embroiled in an argument with two pedestrians walking down the road on their way to the festival and who apparently almost caused him to crash.

After a verbal altercation in the street, Mr. Lawrence had returned to his car and had driven on, but the two men apparently followed the car until it stopped at a traffic light.

A firefight then ensued in which Mr. Lawrence and one of the attackers were killed. Col. Kruger said police recovered 18 spent 9mm cartridges at the scene. He could not say who fired the first shots.

1 killed in Indian state poll violence

LUCKNOW, India (Agencies) — One person was killed and at least five were injured Sunday in clashes during key regional polls in India's volatile Uttar Pradesh state, police said.

A member of the ruling Congress Party was killed in a shootout with a supporter of the right-wing Hindu-Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Patna, near the Taj Mahal city of Agra, senior state police officer Sirram Arun said.

It was 11th death in election-related violence in Uttar Pradesh during the past week, officials say the others included two policemen and six candidates.

The polls are the fourth of six key state elections this month which could determine the political future of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

Police and officials said party workers opened fire at each other Sunday in at least four other places in the large northern state, which has an ugly history of election violence and rigging. No casualties were reported in those clashes.

But Mr. Arun said five Harijans, the "outcasts" beneath the bottom rung of the Hindu

caste hierarchy, were shot and injured by a group of upper-caste Hindus at Man in the south of the state. Caste battles often have a strong political dimension.

Police opened fire to disperse battling Congress and BJP mobs outside a polling station in the southern district of Pratapgarh, Mr. Arun added.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said police opened fire in several districts to stop "booth capturing", in which workers of one party seize control of a polling centre, keep out rival supporters and stuff ballot boxes with false votes.

Voting in the state, which stretches from the Himalayan foothills across India's dusty Ganges Plain, has been split over two days to aid security arrangements.

Roughly half the region went to the polls last Thursday. The rest, including many known trouble spots, votes Sunday.

Officials said regular army troops had been posted as a preventive measure for the first time in Kanpur and Meerut, two cities with a history of Hindu-Muslim tension.

In previous elections, soldiers have been deployed only to stop trouble once it has started.

Police and paramilitary forces were virtually doubled in some sensitive areas, and senior officers were drafted in from elsewhere to beef up the command.

State borders in election districts have been sealed to stop potential troublemakers entering Uttar Pradesh, police parolled rivers to enforce the closure.

All private vehicles including bicycle rickshaws were ordered off the roads in Jaswantnagar district, the home constituency of Samajwadi Party leader Mulayam Singh Yadav.

The Samajwadi Party is fighting the elections in a regional alliance which draws support mainly from low-caste Hindus. That group and the leftist Janata Dal have made the Uttar Pradesh polls into a four-cornered race.

In Srirang, Indian authorities imposed a curfew Sunday in a district after hundreds of angry Muslims took to the streets to protest the death of a militant in official custody.

Irish premier seeks to allay N. Ireland Protestant fears

LONDON (R) — Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds Sunday promised Protestant unionists there was no hidden agenda in London and Dublin's search for peace in Northern Ireland.

"There is now a window of opportunity for peace," Reynolds said, stressing that he and British leader John Major saw eye to eye in their efforts to end a 25-year guerrilla conflict in the British-ruled province.

"We are at one of this," he said. Mr. Reynolds appeared to be less dismissive than Britain of a peace initiative launched by moderate Irish nationalist John Hume and Gerry Adams, leader of the Irish Republican Army's political wing Sinn Fein.

The Hume-Adams plan is secret but it is thought to include a call for a commitment by Britain to recognise the aspirations of the people of all of Ireland for a united Ireland at some stage.

"Anybody who approaches the problems of Northern Ireland without a balanced and even-handed approach, taking into account the fears and suspicions of both sides, is doomed to failure," he told BBC Television.

Mr. Reynolds' soothing words to Protestant unionists who want the province to remain British followed an uncharacteristically blunt outburst by one of their leading spokesmen.

Ulster Unionist Party chief

James Molyneux, a key supporter of Mr. Major's slim parliamentary majority, accused British and Irish diplomats of "shamefully exploiting the natural desire for peace."

"They are creating a degree of instability in Northern Ireland not seen since the early 1970s with the aim of forcing governments to experiment with solutions devoid of realism."

"I have a continuing duty to caution and warn heads of governments of the dangers of serious misjudgments based upon flawed advice," he said in a statement Saturday.

Unionists were enraged last week by the leaking of a document said to have been drafted by Dublin officials which called on Britain to recognise the legitimacy of the future goal of a united Ireland.

Mr. Reynolds said: "I would agree with Jim Molyneux when he said that leaking of documents at this very sensitive time is not helpful to the process. It does raise fears, it does raise suspicions."

On his joint quest for peace with Mr. Major, Mr. Reynolds told the unionists that "they should be happy and content this is not a hidden agenda."

Protestant politician Ian Paisley refuses to return to the negotiating table until Dublin drops the claim in Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish constitution to Northern Ireland.

That requires a referendum and Mr. Reynolds said this would never pass unless it was part of an overall package.

"If I put articles 2 and 3 to

the Irish people in the morning, they wouldn't pass... It's not a runner," he told interviewer Sir David Frost.

Mr. Reynolds, who is to meet Mr. Major in Dublin on Dec. 3, said: "There is an excellent rapport between John Major and myself. I have always found him a very reasoned, reliable, competent and indeed common sense person."

Mr. Reynolds, upbeat about the chances for peace, said: "We are leaving the baggage of history behind us and setting out on a new road."

Mr. Major also sought to soothe Protestant unionist fears when officials stressed he was still cool towards the peace initiative put forward by Mr. Hume and Mr. Adams.

Britain consistently refuses to admit Sinn Fein into peace talks until the Irish Republican Army lays down its arms and ends its guerrilla war against British troops.

Mr. Hume and Mr. Adams showed no signs of ending their peace quest.

"We remain committed to this peace initiative and to the creation of a peace process which would involve both governments and all parties," they said in a joint statement Saturday.

The statement provoked a frosty response from a British official who said: "Any proposals which come from only one side of the community or which do not fully take into account all the interests of both sides are fatally flawed."

Mickey Rourke whistled out of ring

HAMBURG, Germany (AFP) — American Actor Mickey Rourke was whistled out of the ring here Saturday after fans claimed his fight against Thomas McCarry had been fixed. Rourke won by a knock-out in the third round but a 7,000-strong crowd whistled the end of the bout.

American McCarry failed to land any big punches and showed little aggression. While Rourke, in his fifth professional cruiserweight fight, looked to be struggling with his fitness. The 37-year-old Rourke admitted after the fight: "I'm a better actor than a boxer. I'll fight six more bouts and then I will be over. I've neglected my Hollywood career and I have to do something to get it going again." Rourke, who earned around \$118,000 for the fight, had claimed beforehand that he was struggling with his

Playboy editor reveals naked paunch

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The editor of the South African edition of Playboy magazine accepted a women's challenge and posed in just his underpants Sunday. Pictures of a paunchy Jeremy Gordin appeared in several newspapers after the African National Congress Women's League, complaining about the magazine's treatment of women, dared him to pose for its journal The Rock. A league official said she was not impressed. "That's not good enough. He didn't really show anything."

Seoul plans to sell off deluxe residences

SEOUL (R) — The Seoul government will sell several luxury residences used by overseas mission chiefs to save money, news reports said Sunday. "It's natural to sell the deluxe residences and to buy smaller ones," Vice Foreign Minister Hong Soon-Young was quoted as saying in the Korea Herald. Ministry officials were not available for comment. The issue was raised after an inspection by lawmakers last month, the Herald said. President Kim Young-Sam has launched an anti-corruption, and austerity drive since taking office in February.

Your moustache is unnecessary, Thai police told

BANGKOK (R) — Three senior Thai police officers have been ordered to shave off their moustaches by the country's acting police chief during a provincial tour of inspection, local media reported Sunday. Police General Prathin Santiprab demanded the razor job on the three men, one a provincial district chief inspector, after a speech to 150 officers in Narok Ratchasima province, about 250 kilometres northeast of here. The papers said the officers were angrily asked by Gen. Prathin if their lip hair was necessary, when told no, he curtly told them to shave. The officers saluted and disappeared into the crowd, the papers said.

Women slavery gang busted in China

BEIJING (AFP) — Police in the rural eastern Chinese province of Anhui have smashed a gang which abducted women and sold them into sex slavery, the People's Public Security News reported Sunday. A total of 182 arrests were made in four counties, and 376 women released, the paper said, although it did not indicate how many women had already been sold. The Chinese authorities are grappling with a rising wave of kidnappings of women and children in the countryside. Peasant women are sold to pimps, often for less than 5,000 yuan (\$360), and then forced to work as prostitutes in the city.

Troops play Santa Claus to Bosnian children

FRANKFURT (AFP) — American, French and German forces are taking part in a joint effort to play Father Christmas to Bosnian children by parachuting presents to them, the German Defence Ministry said Saturday. Dozens of tonnes of toys and clothes as well as food, all collected by German school children have already been air-dropped to the children, described by a spokesman for the German Defence Ministry as the "main victims of the war". Soldiers often tie small, furry animals to the palettes on which they drop aid and medicines, to "bring them a little bit of happiness", the ministry said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Clinton hails passage of anti-crime bill

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — President Bill Clinton Saturday night praised Senate passage of a bill that would mandate a national five-day waiting period for handgun purchases and other anti-crime measures. The Brady Bill — named for the White House Press Secretary James Brady who was crippled by a 1981 assassination attempt on then-President Ronald Reagan — had been given up for dead for the year due to a Republican-led filibuster. But on Saturday senators agreed to an alteration that would make the bill expire after four years instead of five, and it was passed. It now goes to a conference of selected senators and members of Congress and could become law by the Thanksgiving holiday recess. Senators had already approved a \$22 billion crime bill that will put 100,000 extra police on the streets. Mr. Clinton, coming off what appears to be the best week of his presidency, was delighted that the handgun bill was resurrected.

Allies seek new initiative on N. Korea

SEATTLE, Washington (AFP) — The United States and its allies pledged here this week to intensify efforts to persuade North Korea to allow international inspections of its nuclear facilities, officials said Saturday. In talks here Friday between South Korean President Kim Young-Sam and his Chinese counterpart Jiang Zemin "the two leaders... agreed that the two countries should work more vigorously towards the resolution of the North Korean issue," a senior South Korean security official said. Asked what concrete steps this would involve, the official refused to comment.

Shevardnadze launches new party

TBILISI (AP) — Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze Sunday launched a new political party in an attempt to establish a clear parliamentary majority rather than continue to try to rule by consensus. Mr. Shevardnadze told a founding conference that the new party, the Citizens' Union, will be an umbrella organisation of smaller parties which will retain their individual political manifestos and identities, but will act as a bloc on parliamentary issues. "The movement will be the one responsible for building a new state," Mr. Shevardnadze told

about 200 party founders meeting in Tbilisi's Philharmonic Hall to launch the new movement. Mr. Shevardnadze, who was nominated chairman of the new party, has previously backed away from belonging to any single political party. But, he told supporters, he now needed "a clear parliamentary majority" rather than attempting to rule by consensus. He said the Citizens' Union will hold its first congress and adopt a charter in two months, immediately after a state of emergency ends on Jan. 20.

Letter to Clinton: 'You'll burn in hell'

BELGRADE (AP) — Some say he should burn in hell. Others beg for help. Either way, Yugoslavia's youngsters have found plenty to say to President Bill Clinton in a contest run by a Belgrade children's magazine. "Hunger is everywhere, and you will burn in hell one day because of it," wrote Vladimir. "I have no problems because I do not have anything any more." wrote a 14-year-old Serb refugee from Bosnia named Dragana. "Our house was burned and I do not know what happened to my friends. Can you help us see our home again?" Vladimir and Dragana are among thousands of children who jumped at an invitation by the weekly Politikin Zabavnik to write "open and frank" letters to the U.S. president — and compete for prizes worth a small fortune.

Homeless die in bitter cold in Europe

PARIS (AFP) — A bitter wave of cold weather engulfed much of Europe this weekend, plunging the thermometer below zero and claiming the lives of several homeless people. The cold snap, unusual for this time of year, translated into snowfall in several countries including Poland, Austria, Italy and Britain and temporarily shut down the airport in Sarajevo Saturday, thereby preventing any relief flights from reaching the beleaguered Bosnian capital. The airport reopened Sunday afternoon. In France, two homeless people froze to death overnight Saturday in temperatures of minus eight degrees Celsius. One of the victims was discovered sitting on a bench in the old port section of the southwestern city of La Rochelle while the second one died outside of Paris. In Warsaw, where temperatures went below 20 Celsius, two homeless people who fell asleep in the street were found dead Sunday morning.

Krabbe plans to compete despite ban

BERLIN (R) — German sprinter Katrin Krabbe plans a legal challenge on the two-year ban confirmed on her by the International Amateur Athletic Federation's (IAAF) arbitration panel, her adviser, Thorsten Heuser, said Sunday.

And she told a news conference she intended to compete in the forthcoming indoor season. "We are going to run in the indoor season," Krabbe said. "We want to continue with our careers."

The arbitration panel, meeting in Monaco, decided Saturday the IAAF had acted within its rules when in August it banned Krabbe and German team mates Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr for two years.

The three admitted taking the banned drug clenbuterol, following positive tests on Krabbe and Breuer in July 1992.

In a statement Saturday night, the panel said: "We agree with the IAAF council findings that the conduct of each of the three athletes was likely to bring the sport into disrepute and with the (German Athletics Federation) DLV's findings that each acted in an unsportsmanlike manner."

It added: "In our opinion... the decision was valid and the ban on the three athletes until Aug. 23, 1995 should stand."

A legal loophole in the DLV rules meant the athletics authorities could not impose the mandatory four-year ban for a doping offence on the trio.

The IAAF acted against the athletes under its rules for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Saturday's ruling came at the end of more than a year's dispute between Krabbe and athletics authorities, but it may



Katrin Krabbe

not mark the end of the story. DLV legal expert Clemens Prokop said the ruling could provoke problems in Germany because a civil court would see it as too harsh and Krabbe and her team mates could win injunctions to compete domestically.

Under IAAF rules any athlete competing against them would also be banned, making the organisation of top class athletics meetings in Germany very difficult.

"It could be a problem in the future that a civil court is called into action," Prokop said. "But that is just speculation at the moment... a court will just

have to decide. The DLV will do all it can to avoid a situation like that."

Krabbe, who will be 24 Monday, now has no chance of competing at the next World Championships in Sweden, in 1995 and Saturday's decision could mark the end of her career.

The sprinter, who won the 100 and 200 metres world titles in 1991, has only competed once outdoors since the start of 1992.

After effectively four years out of action, it would be very difficult for her to make a return to competition in time for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Man. United win again

LONDON (R) — Manchester United put behind them the World Cup disappointment of some of their players' squad to beat Wimbledon 3-1 at home Saturday and stay 11 points clear at the top of the English Premier League.

Goals from England's Gary Pallister, Welshman Mark Hughes and Andrei Kanchelskis, who will be going to the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States with Russia, gave United their eighth league victory in a row and 40 points from 15 games.

Wimbledon, the last team to win a league game at Old Trafford 13 months ago, scored a short-lived headed equaliser from former England striker John Fashanu.

Aston Villa leaped over Norwich into second place on 29 points with a 1-0 home win over Sheffield United, Guy Whittingham breaking the deadlock 14 minutes from time.

Norwich, their minds on their UEFA Cup third round first leg against Internazionale Milan Wednesday, are on 27 points after a poor game at home in which they were lucky to hold Manchester City 1-1.

Blackburn Rovers are one of four teams on 26 points after beating Southampton 2-0 at home with two goals from England striker Alan Shearer, a former Saints player.

Striker Bradley Allen scored a hat-trick in Queen's Park Rangers' 3-0 win at Everton. Wimbledon, who had not lost at Old Trafford in four previous league visits, might have gone ahead but for an acrobatic save by Danish

'keeper Peter Schmeichel to tip over a Fashanu effort four minutes after the break.

Munich close the gap

BONN (AFP) — Bayern Munich, desperate to salvage something from a poor season, closed the gap to two points behind leaders Eintracht Frankfurt with a 1-1 draw at basement club Schalke 04.

Elimination from the UEFA Cup by Norwich, and a recent loss to Dresden, denting their domestic league hopes, had plunged Munich's morale to rock bottom.

Their European failure together with a dismal showing in the German League could cost them a reported \$18 million.

Yet thanks to two consecutive 3-0 losses by Eintracht Frankfurt, to Hamburg last week, and against Cologne Friday, Munich's position is now much healthier.

Christian Nerlinger opened the scoring for Bayern in the 73rd minute, before Youn Moulder scored Schalke's 11th goal of the season three minutes before time.

But Bayern coach Erich Ribbeck will not be celebrating following this result.

Sanchez Vicario stops Pierce to meet Graf in final

MELBOURNE (R) — German Ronny Weller became the "strongest man in the world" Sunday, winning the super-heavyweight title at the World Weightlifting Championships.

It was the first major contest at the heavier weight for Weller, 24, the Olympic heavyweight champion. He said he moved up to the super-heavyweight class because he was fed up with the big men getting all the attention.

Weller, who normally spends much of his time in a sauna trying to make the heavyweight class, went on an eating binge to make the over 108-kg class.

The champion's beer drinking and all-you-can-eat diet paid off when the former east German lifter weighed in at 123.19 kg.

"I'm very happy now. Last year I became the Olympic champion, this year I have

become the strongest man in the world," Weller told reporters after his victory.

He said he will stay among the superheavyweights.

The German won a close battle with compatriot and training partner Manfred Nerlinger, a medalist at three Olympic Games, by a 2.5 kg margin.

Weller lifted 200.0 kg in the snatch to set a world record at the new weight, then hoisted 242.5 kg in the jerk to give a combined total of 442.5 kg, also a world record in the 108 kg plus class. The lifts gave him two gold medals and a bronze.

The International Weightlifting Federation changed the weight classes at the start of this year in an attempt to clean up the sport, as most of the old world records were seen to be assisted by illegal drugs.

The most entertaining part of the contest was Nerlinger's

winning lift in the jerk contest. The burly German puffed like a steam train, his face turned red and his body turned 180 degrees on the stage as he struggled with the 247.5 kg barbell. He recorded a clean lift and took the gold.

The German army sergeant also picked up two silvers, one in the snatch and one in the combined lifts, during the last event of the 10-day tournament Sunday.

Nerlinger, 33, said he hopes to add a fourth Olympic medal at the 1996 Atlanta Games to his Olympic collection of one silver and two bronzes.

The event was "weakened" with the absence of double Olympic superheavyweight champion Alexander Kurlovich. The giant Belarussian was one of two Barcelona gold medalists who missed the World Championships.

The superheavyweight contest boasted veteran Leonid Taranenko from Belarus, who won gold at the 1990 Moscow Olympics and silver at Barcelona, but could only manage a fourth place.

Taranenko, 36, can still lay claim to be the world's strongest man. His combined lift of 475.0 kg in the old 110-kg plus class has never been passed.

Russia's Andrei Chemerkine also won a bronze in the snatch with a lift of 190.0 kg and a silver in the jerk with a lift of 245.0 kg to give him the overall bronze with a combined total lift of 435.0 kg.

The heaviest man of the championships, American Mark Henry, who hit the scales at a massive 163.34 kg, came a poor 14th after lifting 165.0 kg in the snatch and 207.5 kg in the jerk to give a combined lift of 372.5 kg.

Troubled Marseille suffer another setback

PARIS (R) — Troubled European champions Marseille suffered another setback when they slumped to a 3-0 home defeat to Auxerre as rivals Paris St. Germain beat Toulouse 2-1 to recapture the French soccer lead.

The Marseille crowd started leaving the stadium 10 minutes before the end of a lackluster performance which dropped the traditional powers of French soccer to fourth place in the 20-strong league.

Barred from defending their European crown and stripped of their national title over accusations that they bribed Valenciennes players to throw a league match last May, Marseille had to sell several

key players.

Without Croatian marksman Alen Boksic, Portuguese offensive midfielder Paulo Futre and international defender Marcel Desailly, trainer Marc Bourrier had to pick a largely untested squad which could not match the experienced Auxerre side.

The team from Burgundy moved in front after 16 minutes thanks to Corentin Martins and wrapped it up in the last 10 minutes with goals by Christophe Cocard and Lilian Laslandes.

"Marseille are going through hard times and must many players, which made things much easier for us," said Auxerre trainer Guy Roux.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSH
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKS ♣83 ♠AQJ54 ♠982
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ ?
What do you bid now?

A.—You won't find this problem in any textbook—it's too difficult to answer! A jump to three no trump with the club suit wide open is unthinkable, as is a raise of partner's suit. Since raising your five-card minor would describe a far weaker hand and you don't have a second suit, the only solution is to show your concentration of strength by bidding two spades and hope partner's next action isn't embarrassing.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK98753 ♠Void ♠AJ743
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
What action do you take?

A.—First, let's eliminate one option—a cue-bid of the enemy suit. That promises support for partner's suit. All you need do for the moment is bid two hearts. Since a new suit by responder is forcing, opener must give you another chance and, if the opponents preempt vigorously in diamonds, at least you will have gotten one of your suits into the auction.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K ♠AK64 ♠K9852 ♠A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

A.—At first it might seem that

three no trump is automatic. However, partner has gone out of the way to stress a possible spade contract knowing that you have at least nine cards in the red suits. Your prime values and king in North's suit are gold—raise to four spades.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠432 ♠AK ♠74 ♠AKJ109
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ ?
What do you bid now?

A.—That's not much of a four-card major you hold, but what alternative is there to a one-spade rebid? To rebid two clubs risks losing a possible spade fit; the hand lacks both the strength and suit length for a jump to three clubs; and you can't bid no trump with no stopper in either unbid suit.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KQJ1065 ♠K109 ♠K5 ♠A9
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
A.—This hand qualifies for a jump shift on all counts. The spade suit is self-sufficient and the fit for partner's suit increases its playing potential enormously. Bid two spades.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠5 ♠A98742 ♠J762 ♠52
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?
A.—Beware of responding on a dead minimum with a potential misfit—partner's rebid of two, three or even four spades could prove costly. However, the odds favor finding a better spot and there's even the possibility that you could unearth a game in hearts. Respond one no trump.

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	To CONCORD '2' The Prince Of Tides		Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15							

Aziz joins U.N. talks on arms

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Iraq Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz joins high-level arms talks on Monday, with U.N. officials hoping he will formally agree to long-term monitoring of Iraq's weapons potential.

There are signs that Iraq might be moving towards formal acknowledgement of the surveillance programme, said a recent report from the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Rolf Ekeus, chairman of UNSCOM, has estimated his inspectors would need about six months to test the programme before he could recommend to the Security Council that the commission has done as much as possible to rid Iraq of nuclear, chemical, biological and certain ballistic weapons.

Mr Aziz, is expected to try and get this period shortened but Mr Ekeus wants the time to see if his inspectors can monitor without interference, diplomats said.

Iraq has been under stringent trade sanctions since it invaded Kuwait in August 1990. The lifting of its oil exports are tied to compliance

with weapons demands.

Sanctions on imports require Baghdad to fulfil a host of other Security Council demands on human rights, recognition of its newly-demarcated border with Kuwait, among others.

Mr Aziz begins Monday in a private meeting with Security Council President Jose Luis Guterres of Cape Verde. He expects to see Secretary-General Boutros Ghali and meet Mr Ekeus in the late afternoon. He is expected to stay at least a week.

Iraqi officials have said their government has already accepted the monitoring. But the commission wants a formal agreement, preferably in writing, that Iraq accepts plans to make sure it cannot rebuild the proscribed weapons.

Some of the plans have been difficult for Baghdad and involve dismantling some so-called "dual use" factories that could in future be converted to arms industries.

Another potential conflict stems from weapons talks held at the United Nations over the past week with an Iraqi team headed by General Amir Mohammad Rashid, director

of Baghdad's Military-Industrial Authority.

The talks are aimed at filling in gaps on data, which officials say are largest in the chemical and biological weapons field and relatively more satisfactory on nuclear materials and ballistic missiles.

Diplomats said some progress was made after a rocky start but information was still missing on chemical and other arms.

In addition, the commission is investigating explosive charges from Iraqi Shiite dissidents, who say government forces used poison gas to drive them out of the country's southern marshlands. Iraq denies the allegations.

Mr Aziz hopes to take home assurances that if his country complies with all weapons demands, the council will lift the oil embargo and not bring up violations in other areas.

France has agreed and recently went out of its way to state that it would abide by the letter of a post-Gulf war ceasefire resolution. But there is no sign the United States and Britain will give such assurances in advance.

U.N. envoy lauds Jordanians' humane approach in Croatia

Crown Prince, honouring excellent students, cites servicemen's behaviour as a shining model

By Caroline Faraj
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday presented the Crown Prince's Golden Award to 24 youths, bringing to 93 the number of those who have received the award so far.

Instead of addressing the ceremony, as he usually does, Prince Hassan read out a letter sent by the chairman of a United Nations independent commission in charge of investigating war crimes in Yugoslavia to the commander of the peace-keeping process in Croatia.

In his letter, the chairman lauded the humanitarian efforts mounted by the Jordanian Armed Forces stationed in Croatia as part of the U.N. peacekeeping forces (UNPROFOR).

He described the Jordanian forces as efficient and friendly, adding that their support was crucial to the success of the U.N. mission.

"During this mission something extraordinary occurred which I felt compelled to recount to you because of its extraordinary significance," the chairman wrote. "During my visit to Sector West, the sector commander invited me to a traditional Jordanian breakfast lunch. In the course of the meal, he called one of his officers and asked in Arabic whether someone had taken some of the food to the 'old woman'." The officer replied in the positive. "I was curious enough to inquire about the 'old woman'." The brigadier-general then told me that a few kilometres away there were seven Serb villages which had been destroyed by the Croats and are now totally uninhabited but for an old woman now 81.

"She was too old and too weak to run, so shehid and



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday presents the Crown Prince Awards (Petra photo)

survived. The Jordanians found her and since they arrived some two years ago they have been caring for her. Every day they send one or two patrols to her house, bring her food daily, chop wood for her, and their doctor visits her periodically. The Jordanians' quiet, dignified, humane, yet stern attitude has insured this woman's survival.

"Curious about this situation, I asked to go see the 'old woman' and was taken there by a number of Jordanian officers and soldiers. Indeed, there she was. On her table was a large plate filled with what we had at the hospital luncheon. Everyone of the Jordanians who accompanied me knew her, and the affectionately called her 'Baku' which I was told means grandmother. They joked with her and she with

them. It was a heart-warming scene. Human kindness at its best in the midst of devastated surroundings."

Commenting on the content of the letter, Prince Hassan stressed that in war the kind of professional and humanitarian behaviour needed to safeguard the experience of His Majesty King Hussein and that of the late King Abdullah Ben Al Hussein.

Prince Hassan congratulated the fifth batch of the Crown Prince Award winners and pledged to keep his promise to them last year by forming an association for the Golden Award winners.

At the end of the celebration, which was held at the University of Jordan, Prince Hassan presented certificates of appreciation to volunteer supervisors and trophies to financiers of the award.

Tourabi fails to broker Afghan peace

ISLAMABAD (AP) — A spiritual mentor for Islamic militants said Sunday he tried unsuccessfully to broker a peace agreement between Afghanistan's warring factions.

Hassan Ali Tourabi, the leader of Sudan's ruling National Islamic Front, said he would return to Khartoum without any agreement from Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and President Burhanuddin Rabbani to stop fighting.

The two groups and other Islamic factions had been united during their 14-year war against a Soviet-installed government. After they ousted the communist regime in April 1992, they began fighting among themselves.

But Dr. Tourabi said Hekmatyar and Rabbani factions would attend an Islamic and Arab conference next month in Sudan where Muslim leaders will plan strategy for a worldwide revival of Islam.

Dr. Tourabi said factional fighting in Afghanistan was a natural extension of the Islamic revolution that resulted in last year's removal of the communist government.

"Revolutionaries often find it a little bit difficult to organize their lives after fighting against another," he said.

Many Afghans, however, see the fighting as a raw power struggle that has left at least 10,000 civilians dead, thousands more wounded or maimed and the capital, Kabul, shattered.

The soft-spoken Tourabi has widespread influence outside of Sudan and has been compared to the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the late spiritual leader who led Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution.

Thousands crowd new wing of Louvre

PARIS (AFP) — Tens of thousands of visitors took advantage of free admission and opening hours extended till midnight to invade the Louvre following the opening of the museum's new Richelieu Wing. A long queue formed outside the museum from early in the morning to visit the new wing's 165 new rooms, on over 21,500 square metres, formerly used by the French Finance Ministry. The Louvre was filled to capacity by early afternoon, causing a temporary halt to entries for security reasons. The number of French and foreign visitors was officially estimated at 40,000. Visitors expressed awe and admiration for some of the improvements, including the majestic glass roof over the "Cour Marly" a courtyard once used as a carpark by the Finance Ministry but now filled with sculptures, including the horses from the gardens of the Marly Chateau. Part of the new wing has been given over to decorative arts, once sidelined by the Louvre's unparalleled collection of paintings.

Kennedy seeks answers on N. Ireland visas

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Representative Joseph Kennedy II has demanded an explanation of why three elected Northern Ireland officials were barred from leaving Shannon Airport last week for the United States. In a letter Friday to Doris Meissner, commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS), Mr. Kennedy said Derry Councilors Mary Nelis, Una Gillespie and Francis Malloy had been seated on a New York-bound flight when INS officials boarded to escort them off. "Serious allegations have been raised about the searching of their personal belongings and the summary revocation of their visas with no explanation," the Massachusetts Democrat wrote. "I'm sure you agree with me that the INS must treat visa requests in an evenhanded fashion, without regard to partisan political considerations or being subject to undue pressure from foreign governments," he added. The letter was made public Saturday. An INS spokesman said Mr. Kennedy had his facts wrong. He said the three had not been issued visas and had been attempting to fly to the United States under a visa waiver programme. "They were stopped before boarding the aircraft at an INS inspection station," the spokesman, Verne Jervis, said in a telephone interview. He added that it is the State Department, not INS, that grants visas or rejects applications.

Indonesia Muslim clergy push for end to lottery

JAKARTA (R) — A group of Indonesian Muslim clergy has held a prayer rally and submitted a statement to parliament seeking the end of the state lottery, the Antara News Agency said Sunday. Parliamentarians will meet with the government this week to decide the fate of the weekly drawing, which has sparked widespread Muslim protests, the agency said. The rally and statement by 150 Muslim clergy Saturday are the latest in a series of protests against the government's decision last month to extend the lottery's licence. The government said it needed funds from the lottery for sport and social events.

From U.S. with love to Russia — 104 pregnant cows

MOSCOW (R) — Nostrils flaring and rumps wobbling, 104 pregnant U.S. cows mingled with fur-capped, armed Russian guards at a Moscow airport Saturday at the start of the herd's new life in the Russian steppe. The mixed-race cattle, a gift to Russia's agricultural college from Denver businessman Oren Benton who owns the Diamond Six Ranch in Colorado, were accompanied by a mounted American cowboy complete with Stetson hat, leather overalls and a red bandana tied round his neck. Bellowing at their first encounter with Moscow's biting winter weather, the cows gingerly picked their way across the ice-covered tarmac of Moscow's Sheremetyevo 2 Airport after a 17-hour flight on a Federal Express DC-10 cargo aircraft.

Iran says it foiled more anti-French attacks

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran said on Sunday it had thwarted further attacks planned on French targets in Tehran by the opposition Mujahadeen-e-Khalq group.

A suspect arrested for grenade attacks on the French embassy and Air France office 10 days ago confessed that the Mujahadeen planned more actions, Musavi Nejad, the information ministry's chief of internal security, told the official IRNA news agency.

The Mujahadeen have denied responsibility for the attacks which followed official Iranian criticism of Paris for allowing Maryam Rajavi, wife of Iraq-based Mujahadeen leader Massoud Rajavi, into France.

Mr. Nejad named the arrested suspect as Ehsan Zahedi. "Musavi Nejad noted that Zahedi, who was carrying a time bomb in a bag at the time of arrest, confessed that two operational teams had been dispatched from Iraq to carry out sabotage activities against French interests in Tehran," IRNA said.

"Further quoting Zahedi, the official said the terrorist (Mujahadeen) group had masterminded other attacks on French interests in Tehran but failed due to precautionary measures taken by Iranian security forces," IRNA added.

Iran said Friday police guarding its border with Iraq killed two Mujahadeen members implicated in the first attacks.

Musavi Nejad said two others fled the country.

The Mujahadeen call Tehran's accusation absurd and says the government itself was behind the attacks.

The Mujahadeen have denied responsibility for the anti-French attacks, which took place 10 days ago after official Iranian criticism of France for allowing Mrs. Rajavi into the country.

IRNA said two Mujahadeen members, Asadollah Bahrami and Parviz Zerafat-Khah, had

been named by a suspect in the attacks arrested earlier.

Spotted in the Shur-Shir area of Saleh-Abad district on Friday trying to cross into Iraq, they were surrounded and killed in a gunbattle, IRNA said.

They carried pistols, grenades and cyanide pills, the agency said, quoting an official in Ham, 500 kilometres southwest of Tehran.

The Iranian government has argued that the attacks on French interests show the Mujahadeen is a terrorist organisation and its members should not be allowed sanctuary in France.

In a statement issued in Paris, the Mujahadeen rejected Saturday's IRNA report.

"The regime's lies today is another link in a chain of false stories to evade the consequences of its terrorist crimes against the French embassy and the Air France office in Tehran," it said.

It said the two persons named by IRNA "are not in any way related to the Mujahadeen."

It added that the Iran's "repeated use of such tactics has afflicted with absurd, contradictory statements."

The statement said that Mr. Massoud Rajavi, the president of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, had suggested that a delegation of French lawyers, criminologists and police travel to Tehran to clarify the situation of those the "regime claims to be the perpetrators of these crimes and investigate, in the presence of a representative of the Mujahadeen and the Iranian resistance, the mullahs' stage-making."

It said that by continuing this "cycle of falsifications and stage-makings, the mullahs' are futilely trying to avoid this suggestion in a bid to conceal the responsibility of the regime's highest ranking authorities in these two terrorist acts against French interests in Tehran."

Egypt sees room for better ties with Iran

BAHRAIN (AP) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa on Sunday urged Iran to reconsider its actions on three disputed Gulf islands, holding out promise of better Egyptian-Iranian relations in return.

Iran occupied Abu Musa, and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs in 1971 as the British pulled out from the region. The islands are close to the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

It agreed to share administration of Abu Musa with Sharjah, which is part of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). But last year, it moved to take full control of the island.

Fundamental changes were going on the Middle East as well as the world "and all including Iran must change policy," Mr. Musa said during a two-day visit to Bahrain.

"Iran is an important state and a sister state and the Iranians are a sister nation for Egypt and all Arabs, but there are crises and problems because of Iran's policy in the Gulf, last of which is that of the three Arab islands whose sovereignty belongs to the UAE," Mr. Musa said in reply to a question.

"We hope Iran revises this policy so that we can move to the stage of better and constructive relations in these fast moving times," he added, using a conciliatory tone.

Mr. Musa came to Bahrain from Abu Dhabi where he was briefed by the UAE leadership on efforts to reach a settlement over the disputed islands.

The UAE, Bahrain and the other countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and Oman — demand Iran's acknowledgment of UAE sovereignty over the three islands, withdrawal of Iranian occupation forces from the Tunbs and an end to Iran's attempts to take over Abu Musa.

ADC says it needs grassroots support in campaign for just peace in Mideast

By Ica Wabbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — No piecemeal peace agreements can lead to a permanent settlement of the problems in the Middle East was the message relayed by an American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) delegation in Amman.

Having as title "Political resolution before economic solution," the panel, held Nov. 20 at the Abdul Hameed Shuman Foundation, discussed ADC activities, addressing the new stage of the peace process and suggesting a sample project for the rebuilding of Palestine and the enhancement of Jordan's economy.

Dr. Albert Mokhiber, president of the ADC national office, talked about the organisation's past and present accomplishments, stressing the grassroots power that was tested when U.S. President Bill Clinton signed the setting up of an Arab American Day, to be observed on Oct. 25.

Mentioning the stands taken by the ADC on different events taking place in the Arab World or the U.S., Dr. Mokhiber said that the latest approach is a pro-active work in the media, trying to change the image the American public has of Arabs as terrorists, hoping the "next generation will be more sensible and sensitive."

Dr. Mokhiber praised Jordan's Nov. 8 elections as a "great step in the right direction," and enhancing the democratisation process which is the only guarantee for "a great future."

On a note of guarded optimism, the chairman and founder of the ADC, ex-Senator James Abourezk, called the deal reached by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel an "agreement to negotiate," whereby "Israel gives up nothing."

Mr. Abourezk, mentioning that Israel refuses to deliver on Security Council Resolution 242, sees the role of the people in the Middle East and the Arab Americans as one of active operators in the American political system in order to change the media.

He sees two changes in the American media: a greater acceptance to listen to the

Palestinian story and, on the negative side, new attacks on Muslim "extremists."

"They say Muslims, but they mean Arabs. It is a new way to be anti-Arab. Since the collapse of communism, the people of the arms industry in America, the Zionists, have been looking for a new enemy.... Muslims. The World Trade Centre was a godsend, it allowed the American press to go on a rampage."

Knowing the trend of the media and the importance of grassroots support, Mr. Abourezk said the ACC's role is that of trying to turn around the American people and with them the government.

"Where media is concerned, we have to start the steamroller going the other direction. If we develop some kind of grassroots pressure, the American people will change its mind," he said, adding that "we (Arabs) have moral persuasion on our side while Israel sold its immoral programme to keep money flowing towards the Jewish state because they have money."

Economist Ghassan Mussallam, whose "list of priorities" is divided into economic and political, hopes "the ADC will transmit the expectations and the aspirations of the people of the Middle East to the U.S."

Dr. Mussallam believes that foremost comes putting an end to the "Israeli-Palestinian, Arab-Israeli conflict." With it come "eliminating all consequences of occupation and aggression, mending the land, enabling people to possess it and utilise it and extending the urbanised zone of our cities and towns and revitalising the Palestinian economy," giving Palestinians "free choice to choose economic partners and (trade) linkages."

According to Dr. Mussallam, the peace accord does not address the issue of Israel creating new facts and on the ground — land confiscation, expulsion of Palestinians, tax collection — but "it gives the Jewish state the right to intervention anywhere, anytime, under the pretext of protecting its citizens."

The ADC's role should be, according to Dr. Mussallam, discussing the concept of repossession of land in Washington and providing

technical support for urbanisation, while, at the same time, "putting forward this idea and defending it."

One of Dr. Mussallam's political principles, which "might take time to implement," states that "peace is total, one for all states in the area."

Total peace

As it should be based on U.N. resolutions and the international law, peace cannot be attained by accords being reached "with Lebanon, but not with Jordan, with the Palestinians, but not with Syria, and, eventually, with Iraq."

Peace should secure the security of all states in the area, said Dr. Mussallam, "otherwise Israel's military power will continue to grow."

Here, he sees the role of ADC in terms of helping doing studies and relaying the feedback from the U.S. on what will be the role of Israel in the region.

As Israel tries to be a member state of the region, that includes Turkey and Iran, that creates a "triangular presence fearful to the Arabs." Membership, said Dr. Mussallam, should come only with the implementation of all resolutions pertinent to the Middle East.

Dr. Munir Farah, Arab-American author and educator and member of the ADC delegation, talked about using the Arab expertise to develop human resources in Jordan and Palestine.

"Jordan needs help in terms of cancelling its international debts," said Dr. Farah, adding that the Kingdom experienced a high economic growth, "a double digit one," but construction has been the major factor and "this cannot continue, it freezes out."

Talking about the peace process, Dr. Farah said "an agreement is not a peace treaty. Israel gained world acceptance and it gave nothing in return."

Why then should such a strong state, with powerful backing from the sole superpower in the new world order, agree to a peace deal?

Dr. Farah explains it by the fact that the Labour Party found itself "squeezed from the right by Jewish fun-

damentalists (religious parties) and by the rising tide of Hamas (what some like to call Islamic fundamentalism)."

On the other hand, Dr. Farah said, the PLO found itself between Hamas and "the ineffectiveness and disarray of the Arab World."

Under such circumstances, Dr. Farah sees "hope and danger" for the region. Hope that the "world community will put pressure on Israel to fulfill the promise of the agreement that Palestine will grow into a state" and danger "from the U.S., where the Clinton administration is infested with strong supporters of the Israelis (Likudniks) and where pro-Israel alliances are exploited to the hilt."

The ADC should play a role on four fronts, trying to combat the four elements which, in Dr. Farah's opinion, are the basis for support for Israel despite "all the fairness to the Palestinian cause and its legitimacy."

The four battlefronts, said Dr. Farah, concern the nature of the American system (the electoral college where the winner takes all) where mobilisation could "help decide the fate of the elections," the congressional elections, where "40 to 45 per cent of the donations to the winner came from the Jewish community," education, touching on the curricula, teachers, training, books, and media which "dances to the tunes of the government and of major institutions and pressure groups in the U.S."

It is a major fight, said Dr. Farah, but the Arab Americans "had some experience in some areas where we were able to frustrate the Jewish lobby; we defeated them in textbook adoption."

The struggle to gain fair treatment for the Arab World is not easy, said Dr. Farah, "but the only way to pressure the government is through appearances in the media, appealing to the American public and steering its opinion."

The delegation is in Amman as part of a tour of the region that took them to the Gulf countries, Lebanon and Syria, in search for that grassroots support the ADC believes can help change the West's perception of the Arab World.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Doctor stabbed in Algiers

ALGIERS (AFP) — A 53-year-old doctor, who was stabbed and seriously injured by two men posing as patients, is the latest victim of a wave of fundamentalist attacks in Algeria, the local press reported Sunday. Said Messai, the head of Algiers' association of private physicians, was attacked last Thursday as he was about to examine one of the two assailants who lunged at him with a knife. He was wounded in the chest, the liver and an arm.

'Gulf still threatened'

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Gulf Arab states are still threatened despite the presence of Western navies in the region and the crushing of Iraq's formidable war machine, a British navy officer was quoted Sunday as saying. "Iraq certainly remains powerful," said Captain Charles Styles, commander of the British warship HMS Campbeltown. "Although the nature of the next naval exercises will be relatively low key, it does not in any way minimise the threat posed by recent events in the region," he told the United Arab Emirates (UAE) daily Gulf News. He spoke aboard Campbeltown, which visited Dubai this week as part of its periodic port calls in the region.

Nigerian unions to end strike

LAGOS (AFP) — The Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and representatives of the military government reached "an accord of principle" Sunday on ending a week-long strike called in protest at drastic fuel price increase, a union spokesman said. The NLC, the country's central labour organisation, accepted "some concessions" by the new authorities over fuel prices, NLC President Adams Oshiomhole said.

Briton in UAE prison

DUBAI (R) — A United Arab Emirates (UAE) court has sentenced a British man to six months in prison for giving Christian literature to Iranians, a British diplomat said Sunday. Ray Amey, 41, was jailed in Dubai after he lost an appeal on Oct. 24 against a conviction for promoting Christianity as a superior religion to Islam, Vice-Consul David Gessing said. "He distributed New Testaments in the Farsi language to a number of Iranians who I believe were seamen," Mr. Gessing said.

Bhutto meets Pk Botha

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Visiting South African Foreign Minister Pk Botha met with Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto here Sunday. Mr. Botha arrived Friday on a three-day official visit to seek early establishment of full diplomatic relations between Islamabad and Pretoria. Ms. Bhutto told Mr. Botha the request for upgrading relations would be considered in view of South Africa's progress towards democracy.

Aid flights saved thousands

NAIROBI (R) — A total of 4,212 mercy flights from Kenya by a group of aid organisations have saved thousands of lives over the past five years, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) said Sunday. The LWF, which launched the programme but was later joined by the Roman Catholic group Caritas and the World Council of Churches, said the flights had mostly gone to southern Sudan but had also taken in Somalia and Burundi. They had delivered 82,597 tonnes of food, while a road operation into Sudan delivered another 12,000 tonnes, an LWF statement said.